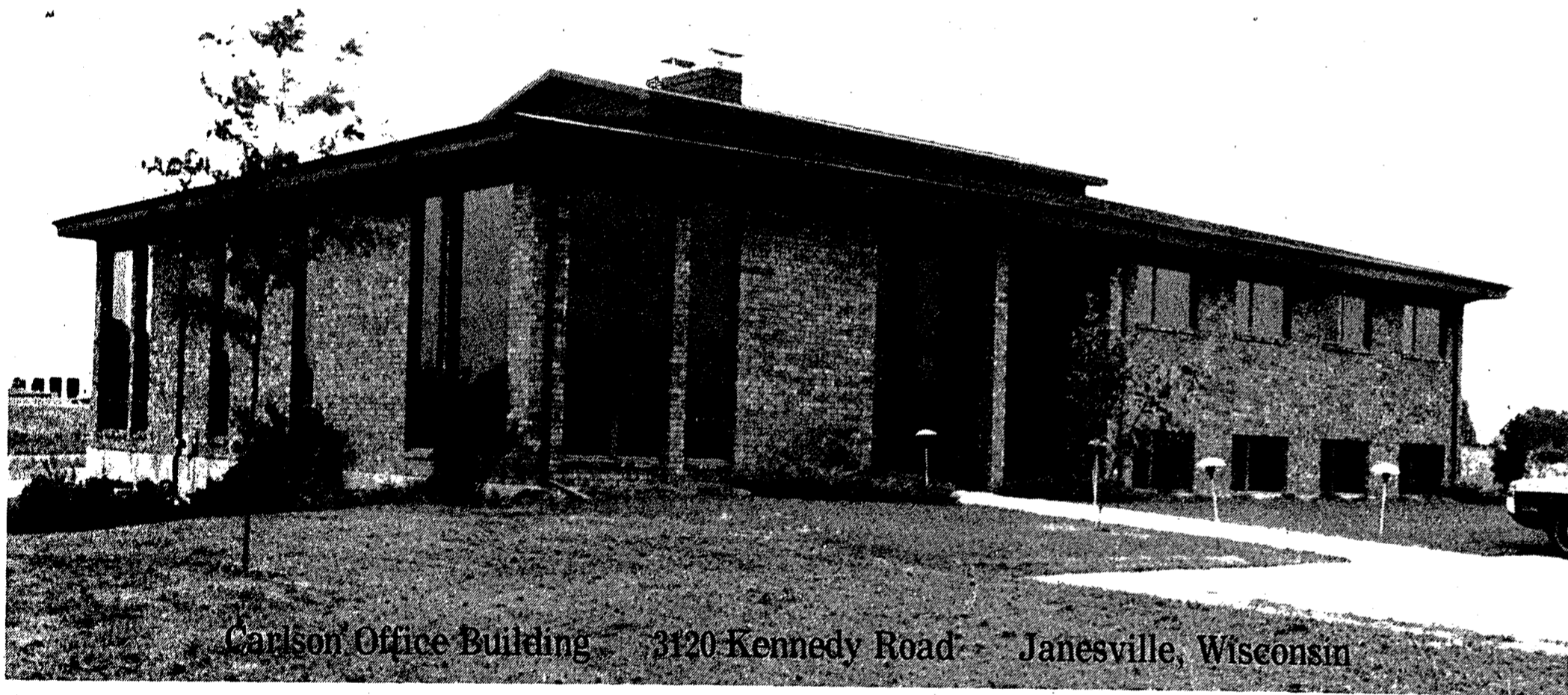


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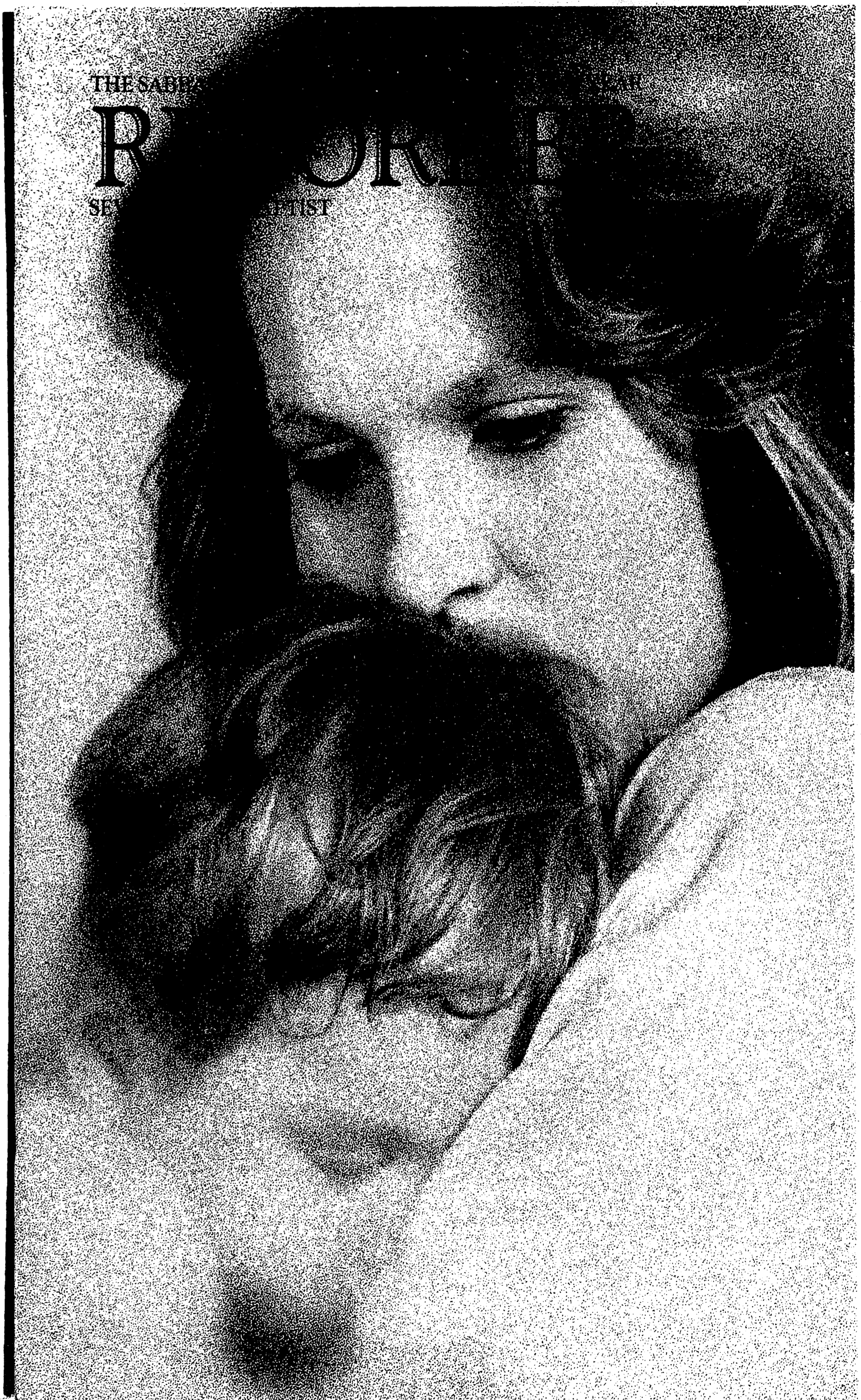
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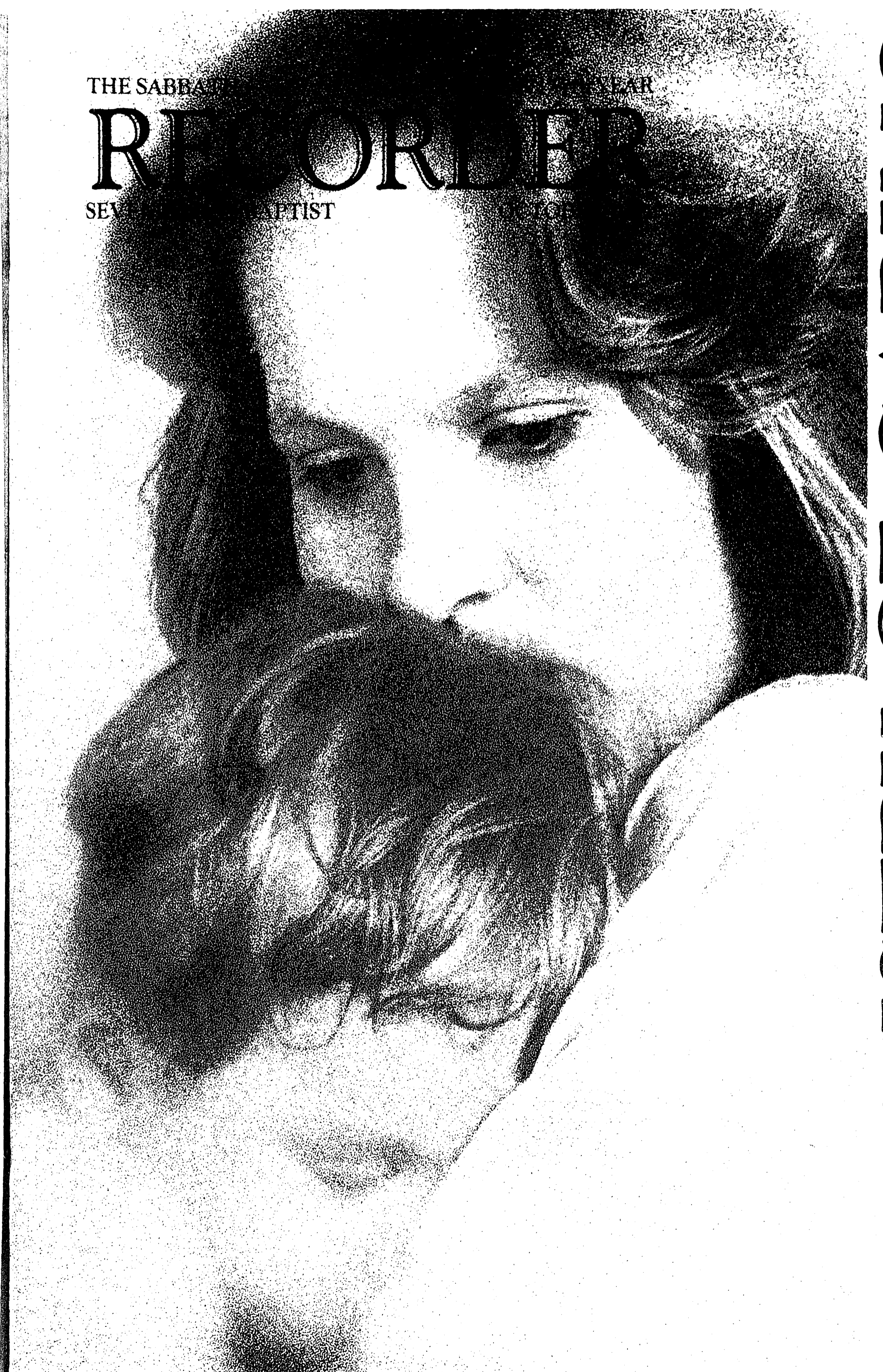
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THE SABBATH RECORDER
SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST



A MINISTRY OF CARING

The Sabbath Recorder

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 137th 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.

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This issue contains a special theme section "A Ministry of Caring" edited by the Rev. and Mrs. Leroy C. Bass. We appreciate their willingness to take on this task in spite of heavy responsibilities. We are sure our readers will be blessed by this emphasis.—Editor.



Guest editors: Rev. and Mrs. Leroy C. Bass. Leroy has spent 18 years in the S.D.B. ministry, eight of which were as Missionary Supervisor in Guyana, South America. He is currently the Protestant Chaplain at Southern Wisconsin Center, Union Grove, WI. Marjorie is completing her studies at the University of Wisconsin Medical School, and will receive the M.D. degree in December 1981. She plans to specialize in Family Practice. The Bases have five children. They are members of the Madison, WI, SDB Fellowship.

What a Caring Ministry Means to Me

by Rev. Leroy Bass

Two things I prayed for during the years of my preparation for a life of ministry: that God would help me to really love people; and for the Holy Spirit of God to permeate my life. God has been at work in my life to prove His love and care for me in ways that amaze me. Despite my sins and failures, I experience His banner over me, and perceive He is helping me to know Him, and continuing to answer my prayers. The more I know Him, the more I love Him. Only in Him does my own existence make sense. God is so patient, so loving, so caring, so forgiving, and all this leads me to exclaim of Him: Glory, glory, glory!

With all my heart I can talk to and tell him or her: "God really loves you, you are an important person to Him." Or, "I am feeling bad about what is happening, but I care about you."

Let me ask you a question: Do you have a way of dividing love? How do you divide love? Does it work for you? I used to think I could neatly divide love into four packages, and hand out one or another of these "gifts" to this one or that one. Now it doesn't seem to work this way for me. In more recent years I have been finding it more and more difficult to tell the difference in the kind of love I have for someone. When am I loving someone for God? When am I loving someone for myself? Is there a difference? Can you separate love like this? Believing that love is of God, I don't know how I can divide love. I am discovering that God's love in me and through me to other people becomes my own genuine love for people. I see it as both my love and God's love, and mine comes from Him. And love must have an object—it doesn't exist in the abstract.

One person I was helping shared an astonishing remark with me. Wendy* was reading Ephesians 3:17-19 in her new Bible, and she read it several times—it's about the love of

*The name is fictitious, but the quotation is genuine.

Christ. "Later, as I was crawling into bed, I suddenly was filled with a deep feeling of peace and heard the following words: 'Wendy, it is necessary for you to know someone's love before you can truly know the love your God has for you.'" Her words struck me with wonder and I asked myself: Is it true that it is too difficult for many to personally experience the personal love of God unless they first experience this from another human being? That statement affected my deepest sense of cooperative responsibility and stewardship of God's redemptive love for all mankind.

Wendy later wrote: "I see you, my friend, as someone who is showing me the way to God—taking my hand and walking with me up the long path to Him!" This gave me awesome feelings of humility.

So love, to be love, must be manifested. To show your caring for someone else is the greatest gift you can give that person. In this, there is healing of the wounded in spirit. "Underneath all my smiling and laughter there was really a deep hurting sadness," spoke one who had a very low self-image.

Of the wounded in spirit, and in soul, and in mind and in body, the world is full. You and I are not going to do all the healing that needs to be done, but we can help—we can do some of it—and because we ourselves are also wounded, we can empathize with others. When we are ourselves in touch with God, and in touch with ourselves, we can be wonderfully effective—for the glory of God, the help hurting and troubled people find the healing they need.

Marcelene* had for years been very active in her church, and a very devout worshipper, but her heart was empty and lonely. She felt rejected by others and believed that she was a nobody, accepting this she said, "as the way life is. I never knew it could be any other way. Other people's

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Heart Wound

This wound to my Heart—
struck deep
by that ruthless Sword—
consumes my very soul

Why, God, Why?
Could not the Sword
as easily kill?
Yet—my heart
its rhythm
still repeats

My Child—
you shall be healed—
This choice is yours—

The wound you may close
with suture of steel
and tincture of bitterness—
the scar become—
as flint

or—
allow Me to bind
with cords of love,
to sooth with
My healing oil—
the scar shall remain
(supple and pink)
and—
whenever the Sword
strikes another's Heart
yours, too,
shall feel his pain.

—Marjorie Darrow

On Broken Dreams, Grief, and Caring

(Some Whys and Hows)
by Marjorie D. Bass

*If I can stop one Heart from breaking
I shall not live in vain
If I can ease one Life the Aching
Or cool one Pain*

*Or help one fainting Robin
Unto his Nest again
I shall not live in Vain.*

—Emily Dickinson

The world is full of hurt. We put on our masks and believe the masks that others wear, forgetting how many smiles cover tears, how many confident poses hide fear, and that the calm exterior may conceal a breaking heart. Yet, if we take a look into our own hearts we know the truth. You and I also have our portion of pain.

Pain and grief are natural consequences of living in our world, and they will continue to be with us until the day when God makes all things new.

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in travail together until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. Romans 8:22, 23 RSV

But, Praise God:

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. Romans 8:18, 19 RSV

Grief is defined as keen mental suffering over affliction or loss. We usually think of it as occurring at the loss of a loved one by death, but this is only one manifestation of grief.

I would like you to take half a minute just now as you read this to contemplate your dearest dream. Close your eyes and think of the one thing above all others that you wish for yourself in this life. Now take another half-minute to fully realize how you would feel if God were to say, "You shall never have that dream." (Or if you already have your dream, if it were to be suddenly denied you forever.) This emotion you feel is grief.

*And this of all my Hopes
This, is the silent and
Bountiful colored, my Morning rose
Early and sere, its end.¹*

Grief is universal—some experience it while young, most by the time they reach middle age, but very few escape it entirely. The causes of this sense of anguish are myriad. For many it is the death of the dearest person on earth—a loved spouse, or parent, or a precious child. Then there is the shattered dream of that perfect child, replaced by the reality of a developmentally disabled or incurably ill child. For others, it is the child that never was. Sorrow in the hearts of parents also occurs when an older son or daughter goes astray.

In our society marital conflict and divorce are major reasons for grief. Then there are those

¹From THE COLLECTED POEMS OF EMILY DICKINSON, edited by Thomas H. Johnson. Copyright 1929 by Martha Dickinson Bianchi; Copyright © renewed 1957 by Mary L. Hampson. Reprinted by permission of Little, Brown and Company.

for whom grief takes the form of a great love—one that is impossible or unfulfilled. These griefs may be harder to bear than if that loved one had died. For some, the broken dream consists of physical disabilities, disease, or loss of sight or limbs. Others lose their home, reputation, business, career, or a valued friendship. Surely, grief is there, hidden away in the hearts of many we meet.

The work of grief (grief work) is the process of giving up the broken dream, that we may go on living without bitterness. The memory will always be there, but it will no longer torment one constantly, as formerly. Christians have a special work to do in helping people to find healing for their hurts through the ministry of caring.

Let us look at some New Testament scripture references. In Matthew 5:16, Jesus said, "Let your light so shine before men, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." How do we let our light shine? I believe the answer is in the preceding verses (the Beatitudes). By bringing the kingdom of heaven to the poor in spirit, by comforting those who mourn, by being peacemakers, showing mercy, etc., we will be a blessing (beatitude) to others.

"Bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2. We can bear the burdens of others if we care enough to share their griefs. But bearing, caring, and sharing take time. It may take hours from your day or week (even from your life), but you will be immeasurably blessed in return.

We can truly help others if we would not pass judgment on them, but endeavor to put ourselves in their place. This is not difficult to do if you have already been in that place. Perhaps we may say that God allows us the experience of pain and broken dreams in order to make our hearts soft toward others. If we know what a broken heart is like, we have earned the right to help others through their pain. If we have found that God has been sufficient to supply our every need through Jesus (Philippians 4:19), we have

A Ministry of Caring. . .

much comfort to offer others.

Friend, if your heart, too, has its share of wounds, allow God to use your vulnerability to hurt to make you sensitive to the pain of others, to give you compassion, tenderness, and understanding.

As a Celebration of Service

It was 9:00 am on this fifth day of November, 1980 and the nurse on 12-D needed the chaplain right away. A newly born infant was losing his fight for life. The mother had requested that her child be baptized, so the call came to me, since it was my turn to be duty chaplain at this large Atlanta hospital. I am a Seventh Day Baptist with deeply implanted conservative roots which include an assumed, as well as a researched, doctrinal position firmly in favor of baptism for believers only. Yet, here I was walking toward the elevator as the irony of the situation impressed itself upon me. Something very difficult to explain precisely was happening—something very powerful in its import.

The elevator doors opened onto the twelfth floor so I went to the nurse's station announcing myself as the chaplain. As I scrubbed and covered my pastoral garb with a sterile gown in preparation for entering the high risk nursery the awareness that I was still clearly a minister doing ministry was a good feeling. Two nurses looked up expectantly as I entered the room causing a moment of panic which began to pass even as it came. This was my calling—it was for this that my training and experiences had prepared me. It was time to minister in the situation as it was, claiming hope in God as a reality transcending while still being present in the situation.

The sacrament of baptism seemed entirely appropriate as an expression of that hope. The service was brief and relaxed being a time of sorrow but not of despair. There was hope with little

denial. God was there while we as a congregation together acknowledged that Presence in our midst. The mother was a Baptist also, but what the nurses were I do not know, nor would it have mattered since the baptism was more than a sectarian rite.

As this particular day wore on I found myself in the midst of my busiest day ever. There were ten emergency calls, six of which were deaths. It began, however, with a call to baptize an infant named "Jack" who died the next day. A release, a permission to be a minister, a celebration in service, an opportunity rather than an obligation—all these and more are involved in those few moments from the "beeper" call until the baptism was completed less than an hour later.

The Holy Spirit graciously allowed those of us present to experience a moment of ministry in which the persons for whose sake all laws and doctrines are given shared together that closeness to God and to each other which is the purpose of all God's laws, ordinances and doctrines. When Jesus said that the Sabbath was made for Man, not Man for the Sabbath, He released us from that tyranny which comes from legalistic attention to the letter thereby opening the door to the awesome freedom of the Spirit.

God has called us to Himself as ministers of His grace rather than as "sacred police" enforcing His commandments. His law is holy, good, beneficial and to be obeyed, but our purpose is ministry not management. We have limitless opportunities to serve those around us and we have the open-ended freedom granted by the Spirit of God to minister and to serve. There are no restrictions on love since one cannot love another too much! Neither can we serve or minister too much. And we can certainly never give too much. What a glorious calling is ours in Christ Jesus our Lord!

by Cliff Bond

[Cliff received his Master of Divinity degree in June 1981, from Candler School of Theology. He is presently a Chaplain Intern at Bethany Medical Center, Kansas City, KS.]

"To show your caring for someone else is the greatest gift you can give that person."

As a Friend

It's Monday morning and I call a friend. "Hi, how are you?" "Okay." However, her voice is not convincing to me. "Are you sure there's nothing bothering you? Would you mind if I stopped over for a few minutes this morning?" Her reply indicated that would be alright and perhaps then she could share more of what she was feeling.

My visit was a time for listening. The problem that had occurred that weekend in her family was shared. As I asked questions, we began to discover just what she was feeling and to see more clearly how God might be dealing with her in this situation, and we prayed about the whole matter.

After sharing the deep hurt she was feeling, my friend said, "I just know God sent you here this morning. We never even talk on the phone on Mondays, not to mention getting together. How is it that God always sends you just when I need you most?"

Months later it was my turn. I was moving and my friend had just hosted a farewell party—a very special experience. I said, "I just don't have the words to express how much I appreciate all this, but I just thank God for you!" Her response was, "Now you know how I've felt so many times."

Through this friendship and many others, God has shown me that we truly are to "bear one another's burden." However, I find that for myself it's the sensitivity to the other's hurt and the listening that helps me and helps the friend most. Praise God for giving us His Spirit to discern, to love, and to serve in His power! And praise God that he doesn't make ministry a one way street! God's economy is such that he frequently uses the one we minister to, to minister to us.

by Althea Rood

[Althea is a pastor's wife in Westerly, RI. She is the mother of two children, and has taught high school mathematics.]

As a Student Doctor

I had first "met" him on the operating table, and now he was to be my patient during his stay in the hospital. But his prognosis was not good. Very few people survive his type of cancer for much more than one year. I found him a very interesting person—a bachelor farmer in his sixties who could have gone far in this world had he had the opportunity of a higher education. Our student doctor-patient relationship soon evolved into that of friends, and I would find myself in his room just to talk when I had a few minutes to spare. We shared like tastes in literature—he recommended some books I should read, and I shared a poem I had written. After a couple of weeks we lost contact when I left for another service, and he was discharged for home.

About six months later I chanced to visit briefly a hospital floor on which I was not currently working, and was surprised to see my friend who was being readmitted for chemotherapy. With tears in his eyes, he remembered the poem I had given him—one which spoke of hope in God. I visited him several times during his short stay, and perceived that despite his profession of atheism, he was open to spiritual things. Later I wrote to him at home and sent him a Christian book which I thought would appeal to him.

When he came back to the hospital, his sister called to let me know he was there. I visited him every day or two for about six weeks until his death. We shared many precious moments together—talking, reading, poetry, praying, just sitting. Though as far as I know he never made a formal commitment to the Lord, both his last days and my own life have both been enriched by our brief friendship.

by Marjorie D. Bass

A Ministry of Caring. . .

Through Letter Writing

"Like cold water to a weary soul is good news from a distant land." (Prov. 25: 25 NIV).

I have always enjoyed writing and receiving letters but I no longer see it as just a hobby or an obligation; it is a ministry to me — a caring ministry. Four years ago God inspired me with idea of supporting the Summer Christian Service Corps (SCSC) workers with letter. As a veteran SCSC'er I knew of the need for encouragement since so much of the summer is spent in giving of yourself to others. So that summer (and again the past two summers) I sent letters, cards, and scripture verses to the SCSC teams letting them know of my interest, prayers and support. It was a blessing both to them and to me.

It was through the response of the SCSC workers that I began to confirm that letter writing can indeed be a ministry. More confirmations followed as I found in Ephesians 12, "we have different gifts, according to the grace given us . . . if it is encouraging, let him encourage." I read the book *Born Again* by Chuck Colson. He told how encouraged he was by the many letters sent to him by other Christians (many of whom he didn't even know) to tell him of their love, prayers, and support during the difficult Watergate trials and later in prison. Today I am excited about a letter writing ministry.

The apostle Paul certainly had a ministry of letter writing. Much of the New Testament consists of his letters to other Christians sending them greetings, counseling them, assuring them of his prayer support, or encouraging them with favorite scriptures and thoughts of God. I challenge you if you might have the gift of encouragement and enjoy writing letters to consider letter writing as a ministry. The possibilities are endless! Write to lone Sabbath keepers, family members that live away from you (especially grandparents!), missionaries, children at Sunshine Mountain, young people from your church who are away at college . . . even SCSC workers or prison inmates. The challenge — let God lead you

into an exciting and blessed ministry of caring — letter writing!

by Susie Fox

[Susie works as an engineer for IBM. She and her husband, Dean are active in the Washington, D.C., SDB Church.]

As a Teacher

"Treat everyone with equal kindness; never be condescending but make real friends with the poor. Do not allow yourself to become self-satisfied. Never repay evil with evil but let everyone see that you are interested only in the highest ideals."

Romans 12:16-17 JB

A teacher's work is to help students gain understanding of a body of knowledge and of related skills. Unfortunately, these goals are frequently not easy to accomplish. The responsibilities of a teacher who is also a Christian, of course, go beyond the merely educational. As a high school social studies teacher who encounters some two hundred students of varying ability, motivation, and behavior, each year, one of the greatest difficulties is to come to know each one of them, even a little bit, as an individual. During the course of a semester I sometimes fail even to connect all of the names and faces. Nevertheless, I have discovered, sometimes several years after having a student in class, that he or she remembers, and was affected by, some off-hand comment or action of mine.

Paul's instruction to the Roman church was not written with teachers in mind but it contains a lot that has direct application. The bright, attractive, cooperative student does usually get far more attention than any others. Paul reminds me to "treat everyone with equal kindness." There is always a tendency to condescension toward those who are inferior in status. Paul reminds me that condescension is incompatible with friendship and genuine concern. It is easy, particularly for me, to be lazy. Paul warns against self-satisfaction. He also warns against vindic-

tiveness toward those who have harmed or hurt you. Finally, in this short excerpt from his letter, Paul reminds me of the witness I make (or fail to make) daily to the convictions I hold.

I like teaching and I enjoy high school students (most of the time). I want to teach well, to be a friend and an example worthy of the name Christian.

I fall far short. It seems that I am always doing what I shouldn't and failing to do that which I should. But each day is new, and with the goal before me, I pray for His power to do what should be done and for His guidance to know what that is.

by James A. Skaggs

[Jim is a public school teacher in Madison, WI.]

As a Pastor's Wife

"Your life in Christ makes you strong, and his love comforts you." Phil. 2:1

The calling to be the wife of a minister is one which would be virtually impossible to fulfill were it not for a belief in these words from the Apostle Paul as he wrote to the Philippians. This affirmation stands out in my mind as being so basic that for years I did not remember the chapter or verse, but said the words over and over and drew support from it. I thought of them as a "spiritual vitamin."

Success or failure for the minister is often affected by the reaction of his partner to those whom he serves. In almost all cases, people are most kind and forgiving, but a real dedication to His service on the part of the wife, without oversensitivity or resentment, is the vital ingredient.

As a young wife in the ministry of the Church I was to learn a lifetime of lessons from the people of the churches we served. There were those who were loving and understanding (the majority) but there were also some who were not lovable on first "contact".

The day we joyously entered our first parish, we were meeting all of the congregation.

"People are precious to God and they come to appreciate this when they sense they are first precious to me or to you."

A Ministry of Caring. . .

One lady, white-haired and lovely opened a conversation thusly:

"Can you play the piano?"

My answer had to be "no", but I timidly volunteered the information that I did read music.

"Are you a singer?" was the next question.

To this I had say that I sang in the choir, and had an alto range. (By this time I was feeling rather inadequate.)

"But they told us that you were very musical," she complained. And then, as if making the best of it, "I'm sure you are a very nice person."

Without the strength and comfort of Christ's love, that woman and I might never have become friends because my first feeling were not kindly toward her. My hurt ego might never have healed, and I would have missed having a good friend. Now, looking back, I thank God that I did not miss knowing her. She told me much of her life and described her feeling of inadequacy when she took over a ready-made family as a young bride. This dear lady did not become less blunt and tactless, but I changed, and came to realize that she did not intend to be unkind. I did not try to reform her, but instead prayed for understanding, and she became a dear friend, a staunch supporter, and when we departed the parish, her tears were real and heartfelt.

Ministers' wives need this strength and comfort to meet and to love as well as to accept the unlovable, the careless, the ignorant and sometimes the spiteful.

The love of Christ makes us strong in giving us better sight. This "improved sight" helps us see the beauty and value in other people. After forty-three years as a pastor's wife, I realize the blessing of this power to aid us in overcoming bruised feelings and hurts. When we have the knowledge of His love, we can say in confidence, "Even though others do not always seem to appreciate what I do, I am secure in knowing that I have done a good work in His eyes, through his love and comfort." When we lose the resentment

that we might "naturally" feel, we know that Christ has been at work in us.

Another blessing His love brings is a determination not to "give up" in a discouraging circumstance. In my profession as a school teacher and librarian, my life is full of exciting, and sometimes trying situations. Last year as the only new member in a faculty of 18 teachers I was enjoying meeting the others, and hearing them renew friendships and talk of summer happenings. One of the teachers, a woman, came to talk to me. I felt at once that I was being measured and evaluated. (It is a fact that a minister's wife who works in a position outside the Church is measured very carefully by her fellow workers to see if she is going to "fit in" and work well with the group). This teacher talked to me about books, and I realized that she was very well qualified to recommend books to me that might be used in the library. She suggested a title of a new book that might be purchased. Later on in the afternoon I remembered her suggestion but forgot the exact book's title. When I phoned her, her reaction shocked me . . . "Well, what kind of stupid librarian are you if you can't remember the name of a book?" Momentarily thrown off balance, I assured her that if she could give it to me once more, I would be sure to write it down. My feelings ruffled and blood boiling, I terminated the call as soon as possible. I was angry, but my Christian logic intervened in the reassurance that "you know you are not stupid, and you can, with His help, straighten this out."

Nevertheless, I dreaded contact with her, since I believed that she thought me stupid, however it wasn't easy. Passing my open door the next day, she saw me at the card catalog and threw in these words: "What is our stupid librarian looking for now?" The next day I heard the word "stupid" again, and started feeling that the only way to handle the situation was to avoid her. I could only pray for understanding. Two weeks went by, and one day she appeared at my desk. I had just been thinking about her. She asked if I would help her find some materials she

needed. Beyond my control, a warm and loving feeling came over me. I knew that this was my opportunity to resolve my own feelings and fears.

The words came very easily. "Miriam, you have been with this faculty a number of years, haven't you?"

"Yes, why do you ask?"

"You know them all so well, do you think I will fit in here and be able to take care of their needs?"

"Oh I think you are a great librarian. You are already getting a reputation around here for doing a great job!"

"Thanks, I really appreciate that Miriam — coming from you."

His love will make us strong so that we need never "give up" on a situation. We will be able to ask when confronted by difficulty: "Why does this person react this way? I will wait to see what is revealed to me. I will not give up until I discover that I am not able to do anything more for him — then my prayer will be "Lord, give me wisdom, patience and love for him."

by Madeline Fitz Randolph
[Madeline lives in Boulder, CO]

A Ministry for Life!

By profession, I am a registered nurse, but by vocation I am a Christian. My roles throughout the day may vary from nurse, to mother, to wife, to friend, but regardless of the title the motivating source of energy for my existence is "caring."

Caring means, "to be concerned; to love or like, to look after; to protect."

To be honest I cannot relate those specific moments when I knew God was using me to change a life. Neither do I remember all the messes I cleaned up or the terrible sights I've seen. Nor can I adequately share the agonies, pain and sorrow that some have to bear, or what it's like to be in a code, or what it's like to have deal with death, suffering, and fear throughout each day —

"Dare to care,
it's a life changing ministry."

you have to be there and experience this reality of life to know.

Some of what does come to mind from my experiences are: the hours spent working with a man wracked with pain, being with him and his wife through it all; the letter written with tears to a fellow minister and wife who lost their first baby; the patient who is dying and is afraid, with the family that can't accept the condition-loving and sharing the pain with them until the end; the patient whose mind is gone and is fearful; the fellow worker that needs support and encouragement to face a new challenge; holding my own child close to give him courage to face the day; sharing a gift with a friend; kissing a wrinkled old cheek to show I care; these and many more depict life as it is. It isn't the technical skills and medication that show caring although that is a part of it, just being willing to share and allow the other person to be what he is — that is caring.

Jesus said that each time we visit the sick, feed the hungry, give water to the thirsty we are serving Him personally. Matt. 25: 35-40. It isn't easy—it's painful to care—you are vulnerable—you may be rejected, ridiculed and hated—but the rewards are everlasting.

The Bible instructs us to "love one another as God loved us," Heb. 4: 7-12. God through Christ loved us so much He gave up His very being; suffering anguish, pain and death to protect and provide for us now and always. This is the example we are given for true caring for life.

You and I don't need a profession to have a caring ministry. Caring does not have to be elaborate or grandiose. It is the phone call, the letter, the meal to someone in need, a hug, a smile, time, a hand clasp, money, a visit, a simple giving of yourself to another with no expected dividends, in your home, your church or your community. Dare to care, it's a life changing ministry.

by Carol Bond

[Carol is Associate Director of Education and Staffing at the Jefferson County Memorial Hospital, Winchester, KS. She is the mother of three children.]

by Dorothy Parrott

The President Shares

A great big "thank you" is due Reverend Graffius for giving us a very inspirational Conference. There were many tensions during the week we spent in Salem, West Virginia—one death, several severe accidents and two controversial issues. Truly, the Holy Spirit was with us as we demonstrated that we were bound together with love. Thanks, again, Pastor Chuck!

As we move to comply with the vote of General Conference to move the General Conference to Janesville, Wisconsin, we will be faced with many new situations. In any major move there are unanticipated adjustments that have to be made. We need to keep reminding ourselves that all of us "must be about our Father's business."

I am convinced that God has particular work for this denomination to do. We need to work together as a conference of churches,

boards and agencies to continue the work that has already been accomplished. As Seventh Day Baptists we are identified as believers with a unique set of distinctives. Our name proclaims that we are Christian, disciples of Jesus Christ, believe in spiritual freedom, and the "priesthood of believers," practice baptism by immersion, and observe the seventh day of the week as God's Holy Day.

We need the denominational structure to accomplish those things that can best be done by cooperative effort. The people in the pews should have more information about how the denomination functions. I question that very many people know what OWM stands for. The Coordinating Leadership Team has gone to great effort and expense to prepare posters and bulletin inserts to encourage us to know more about the work of the boards and agencies. I hope the pastors are calling attention to these attractive materials.

Is it important that new groups are assisted as they meet together to establish fellowships and then become churches? Is it important that we encourage young people to enter the ministry and then supervise their training? Should we continue to publish *The Sabbath Recorder* and tracts? And how about the Summer Christian Service Corps or the missionaries we have in many parts of the world (new ones learning about us and requesting affiliation)? There are so many other things we do together that we can't do alone. I am especially thankful for the Decision to Discipleship movement. The Battle Creek Church has been richly blessed by those who are participating. I know this is true in other churches, also.

Our Conference theme is "The Ministry of Reconciliation." Let us pray together. Let us support the work with our tithes and offerings. We must be obedient to God if we are to know a personal reconciliation with Him. To pray constantly, study the Bible diligently, bring our tithes and offerings, be faithful in assembling ourselves together and share our faith with others are those things that are pleasing to Him. □

CHILD OF RAGE. Thomas Nelson Publishers, hardcover \$8.95. By Glenn Hester and Bruce Nygren.

Child of Rage is a shocking indictment of the U.S. Foster Care system, a system that denies thousands of children the opportunity for a loving, trusting home. It is a personal record of the mistreatment and neglect of one of these children, Glenn Hester.

From the age of three, Glenn was the legal ward of the New York Board of Welfare. Alone and

afraid, he was forced to learn the tough, unwritten code of survival. Dumped, uprooted, and yanked from one "home" to the next, Glenn mastered the guerilla tactics of the "incorrigible."

Glenn was caught on a well-traveled collision course—a shocking downward spiral into insanity—brought on by abuse at the hands of authority figures. But, by God's grace, Glenn is one of the survivors. His story, **Child of Rage**, is a plea for action. Now. □

Teaching Sabbath Worship to Our Children

Rev. Leland E. Davis
Washington, DC, Church



God has promised, "Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it." An integral part of that God-given training is teaching Sabbath worship to our children.

The Sabbath is as much caught as it is taught! Much depends upon our attitude regarding the Sabbath Day. If our children detect that we are having a boring and burdensome experience on God's holy day, then they are apt to reject our teaching concerning its truth. However, if they sense that we are having a delightful and joyful time, then our children will want what we have. Our attitude should be "the same as that of Jesus Christ," who counted it a delight to keep God's law.¹

Careful and diligent teaching of the Sabbath to our children must come from our hearts which are overflowing with love for the Lord. Only as we love Him with all our heart, soul and might can we be effective in sharing how precious His day is to us. We can talk about the joys of the Sabbath when we are at home or out for a walk; at bedtime and the first thing in the morning.²

Wholehearted love for God is demonstrated by a vital commitment of ourselves to keeping His day holy, and teaching its truth to our children. As we daily offer our lives to Him and make ourselves available for the ministry of teaching our youth, He can use us as channels of His love and truth.³

Our life-style commends the respect or disrespect of our children. As they learn early in life to honor, respect and obey us, this will help to assure the success

of our Sabbath teaching. For this reason, the Fifth Commandment must be taught in close relation to the Fourth Commandment.⁴

In everything we must set them a worthy example which they can learn to copy. Our Sabbath keeping should be a model which closely resembles that of the Master. In our teaching we must be sincere and serious. It goes without saying that instruction and example go hand in hand.⁵

The Sabbath is a time for family celebration. Special activities on Sabbath Eve help to reinforce and make real the truth: "From evening until evening you shall celebrate your Sabbath."⁶ As fathers we can gather our children around the table to thank God for a week of work and for the time He now gives us to worship Him. We need to stress that the Sabbath is the heavenly Father's gift to us, His children.⁷ We have great cause to rejoice and be happy as a family.

To teach and remind our children that the Sabbath is special, we can welcome the day with a candlelighting service. It is suggested that we use two candles, one to symbolize Christ who is the Light of the world, and the other to represent ourselves who are called to be lights in the world. As mother lights the two candles, we can have the children read John 8:12 and Matthew 5:14-16 from the *Living Bible Paraphrased*.

The Sabbath hours provide us with ample time at home as well as at church to share with our children what God is doing in the world as He reaches out through Seventh Day Baptists. There are

many interesting and exciting things which are happening in missions which parents as well as Sabbath School teachers can relate to our children. Key workers are currently receiving missions news which can easily be adapted for sharing with youth. This calls for disciplined parents who are in control of the household, have courage to turn off the television set, and create a Sabbath environment.

What I am urging calls for the wise investment of God-given time and energy to develop a resource center at home with Bible games, Bible quizzes, Bible story books, missionary stories, and a collection of Seventh Day Baptist hymns and songs. Sacrifice a nap on Sabbath afternoon in order to accomplish this project. Enlist the help of your children and use their talents too! Be creative, imaginative and resourceful!⁸

God charges us to be diligent and faithful in training the children whom He has placed in our care. He holds each of us responsible to give Him our best in teaching them. What shall our response be to His charge to us? Let us live and act in a way worthy of the charge which He gives us. □

1. Philippians 2:5 NIV
Psalm 40:8
2. Deuteronomy 6:4-7
3. Romans 12:1-2
John 14:23-24 NIV
4. Exodus 20:8-12
5. Titus 2:7-8 NIV
6. Leviticus 23:32
7. Exodus 16:29
8. 1 Peter 40:10 NASB



A steward is one who manages the affairs of another. Oftentimes in past history, he may have been a slave, a servant, one who had little freedom, yet one who was trusted with the affairs of his master.

A steward was a dependable person. An outstanding example of a steward is Abraham's steward, Eliezer, who was so respected by Abraham that he proposed to God that he make him his heir, the heir of the promise of God that Abraham be the father of many nations, that this promise be fulfilled through Eliezer. Later we find that Abraham trusted this same man to select a wife for the son of promise.

We are stewards of God. Are we as trustworthy as Eliezer? God has given us a twofold stewardship.

1. At the time of creation, he gave us the stewardship of this earth: to replenish it, to fill it, to subdue it, to use it. That is a big order.
2. When Jesus left this earth, he gave another stewardship: Ye shall be witnesses unto me. Go and baptize, teach those things that I have taught.

Stewardship is the carrying out of our responsibilities, the affairs of our office. To be good stewards the attitude which we have toward life is very important. Remember Jesus told of leaving or entrusting money to three servants or stewards, and two of them went out and traded and made more and brought the proceeds to their master. The third man brought only that which he had been given with the comment: "I knew that you were a hard man; so I hid that which you gave me so that I could give it to you on your return." Perhaps he had been afraid of losing it, and would not risk using it.

In our stewardship to God, we must recognize him as God, as supreme, as Lord, the one to whom we owe life itself. He is also the one to whom we owe the assurance of eternal life.

Stewardship is Glorifying God

by Rev. Earl Cruzan
Milton, Wisconsin
Psalm 34:1

Regardless of anything else, stewardship is "glorifying God." It is holding the greatness of God up before the world. It is praising him for who he is and what he has done for us. This may be with "Hallelujah's," and "Praise the Lord's," and "Amens," but there is a more basic way than that. This is the enthusiasm of the expressions of praise which fill our whole life so that the joy of it permeates our being and radiates out to all mankind.

Always Thank The Lord

We do well to follow the Psalmist in his glorifying God. How many of the Psalms do this! The 34th Psalm is a psalm in praise of God's goodness. He says: "I will always thank the Lord." It is possible that there may be times when we don't feel like thanking anyone. Life doesn't fill us with thanksgiving. Yet, I cannot look at any time or event in my life when I didn't feel like thanking the Lord for his very presence in the world and in my life. God has been good to me. I say this out of a deep conviction of my heart; even though many times material goods have been in short supply, and we have said "no" to many things that would have been pleasant to do, or nice to have.

Yet, I have never resented this, nor blamed God for it. I have thanked God continually, perhaps not audibly as much as I should have.

I have thanked Him that he enabled me to get through college and seminary without debt, that he provided ways for me to work to pay the necessary bills; that he gave me an understanding wife, a helpmate who has been willing to become totally involved in us as a family unit and in the serving of our Lord. I have thanked him and continually thank him for the children that he gave to us, for the in-laws that have joined our family and the grandchildren which add to the joy of our lives.

The Psalmist says: I will never stop praising him." And I pray that there may never come a time or occasion in my life when I stop praising God. How do we praise God? There are many ways. The most important way of praising God is the life we live and the credit we give to God for that life, and those things which come to us. We praise God when we join together in worship; in the singing of hymns; in ejaculations of praise when something strikes us deeply either in what is read, said or



sung. It may be when the beauty of God's creation fills our eyes and we exclaim from the beauty of it all, "Praise God." He has made so many beautiful things for us. I praise God when I see the beauty of a sunset, the brightness of a flower, the majesty of the mountains, the awe of the ocean, yes the beauty of the birds and animals, and of human life.

"I will praise him for what he has done." What has God done? He has reached out in love to call me to himself. He has offered me pardon for my sins through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. He has assured me that in his Son, I am a part of his kingdom both now and forever. Isn't that a cause for praise? As someone has said: "After I accepted Jesus Christ and his sacrifice, my life has been a 'thank-you' to God." The very way I live, patterned after the teaching, the guidance, which God has given should be a "thank-you" for salvation. Sometimes my thanks may not seem very strong when I succumb to temptation and let my own selfish desires overshadow the teachings of God, and control my reaction to life and people.

I thank God for the gift of the Holy Spirit, that God indwells my

very being. This does not mean that I never sin, but it does give me power to live a more fruitful life; it draws me back when I am tempted to go in the way of the world; it empowers me when my timidity would keep me from sharing my praise of God with others.

Children of the King

"May all the oppressed listen and be glad!" The good news of salvation is alike to the poor and the rich, the free and the oppressed. There is no distinction of persons before God. All man-made distinctions are removed as though taking off our clothes and appearing naked before God—just who we are, unadorned by man-made ointment, clothing or standards of any kind. You may be oppressed, but your oppression will not last. You are a child of the king, and there is no oppression in eternity with him.

Join me, join others in praising God, in giving him credit, in giving him thanks. We should be free from fears. There is no fear in love. What are the fears that oppress or obsess you? Let God have your fears. Trust in his promises. Praise him for today. There was a woman in Milton this year who committed suicide because she didn't want to grow old.

Paul says in 1 Cor. 1:6-7 the message about Christ has become so firmly established in you that you have not failed to receive a single blessing, as you wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed.

The Psalmist continues: "I prayed to the Lord, and he answered me. He freed me from all my fears." This should be our experience in Christ. He has promised to be with us, to strengthen us, to keep us. He has not promised that we will live a life free from tribulation, but he has promised triumph over tribulation.

Some have called Christian faith, the promise of "pie in the sky by and by." While it is an im-

portant part of our Christian faith, that all the hardships and trials of this world will be offset by life with Christ in his kingdom; still our Christian faith gives us meat and potatoes now also. The real substance of life which enables us to withstand the trials of this world and to stand triumphant because we know that we are in his kingdom now.

Are there those whom God does not see on account of their oppression or their helplessness? It might seem so at times, that even God has forsaken them; but not so! God hears and answers prayer. God comes through with what is needed to withstand the oppression, to get strength from our helplessness, to take us out of our troubles.

Do you have a guardian angel? The Psalmist says: "His angel guards those who have reverence for the Lord and rescues them from danger." This does not mean that there is never hardship or danger, but it does mean that there is a way out.

"Find out for yourself how good the Lord is." This must be a personal experience. We cannot experience the goodness of the Lord for another, but we can share his goodness to us with others so that they may find out and rejoice.

This is the invitation to find the goodness of the Lord. The goodness of the Lord is revealed in that although we are judged and found wanting, worthy only of death and separation from God, that out of his love, He sent his son, Jesus, the Christ, to live and die and rise again. He took upon himself the penalty for our sin, thus freeing us to be sons and daughters of God coming freely and joyously into his presence.

Jesus did not come to judge. he came to save. This is the goodness of the Lord. "Have reverence for the Lord, all his people, those who obey him have all that they need."

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WOMEN'S BOARD



Mrs. Elisabeth Schmid, Mrs. Frances Becker, Mrs. Marie Fassbender and Mrs. Anna Pfeiffer.

Special Award

The committee of the Women's Board received many nominations for the recipient of the Robe of Achievement. One of the nominations, we felt, fell in a special category, and for this reason we propose a special award for a group of four ladies who have each dedicated their more than 80 years to the love of their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Mrs. Elisabeth Schmid, Mrs. Anna Pfeiffer, Mrs. Frances Becker and Mrs. Marie Fassbender, members of the now disbanded Irvington German SDB Church, are now attending the Raritan Valley SDB Church. These ladies have provided us with the ultimate of "it is better to give. . ."

During World War II, they collected, boxed, wrapped, mended and shipped articles of clothing, towels, blankets and personal needs to Germany for distribution among those whose property had been destroyed. Many times they sent and spend almost all they had, which was very little during those hard times. They endured many personal hardships just to make sure their boxes were filled and shipped.

Even though most of them were not born to SDB parents, they all came from Christian homes and through Bible study or the personal testimony and witness of SDB friends, they became Sabbathkeepers who, until 1980, celebrated their worship in German, their native language. During later

years, the church met at the Schmid home.

Even with their very limited incomes, they have always generously supported missions and Our World Mission. Upon disbanding, they shared their accumulated savings with the Sunshine Mountain project. Their goals have always been to share the love of their Lord Jesus and their total dedication of the Sabbath with everyone.

And talk about the gift of hospitality. . . No one ever left the Schmid home feeling hungry! . . . And oh, the desserts after a very filling meal!

Any time spent with these ladies is an education in itself—of the German customs, cultures and traditions, helpful child rearing tips and especially their heartwarming personal testimonies of their great faith and total dedication.

We always hear words of cordial greeting, of encouragement and praise, and words of spiritual uplifting which makes everyone glad for the Sabbaths we can spend with them.

They deserve to be recognized as SDB octogenarians who, despite physical handicaps, are still very active participants of the Raritan Valley SDB Church. They are especially known for being fervent pray-ers! For all these reasons, the Seventh Day Baptist Women's Society is pleased to present a special award to these four ladies. □

ROBE OF ACHIEVEMENT



Oma Pierce Seager

Response

Oma Pierce Seager was born at Farnam, Nebraska, February 6, 1900, to James Newton Pierce and Eunice Ernietta Babcock Pierce. She had three sisters and one brother.

The family moved to Fouke, Arkansas, by covered wagon about 1903. Oma has vivid memories of this move. The family attended the Fouke Seventh Day Baptist Church. She became a member at an early age.

Oma attended the Fouke Academy which was operated by Seventh Day Baptists. She graduated from Fouke High School, and started college in Battle Creek, Michigan. She desired to study nursing but was not strong enough after a serious illness to pass the required physical examination. She worked as a technician at a sanatorium in Battle Creek to earn enough money to attend Milton College in Wisconsin. She graduated from Milton and later taught Latin there for two years.

She met Lloyd D. Seager, a pre-med student and they were married in 1927. They moved to Urbana, Illinois, where Oma taught school and Lloyd did graduate work. A son, Irving D., was born there.

From Illinois the family moved to St. Louis, Missouri. Lloyd completed his doctorate and began teaching in the University Medical College. Two daughters, Miriam and Loretta, were born while the Seagers were in St. Louis.

Dr. Seager said that many times he was ready to give up his studies because of the hardship for the family, but had it not been for Oma's constant support and sacrificial frugality, he could not have become a physician. All parents are

(Continued on page 18)

Statement given by Mrs. Oma Pierce Seager in response to receiving the Robe of Achievement, which was presented by Mrs. Marian Soper at a special meeting in the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Little Rock, August 22, 1981.

When Berwin Monroe announced in church that I had received the Robe of Achievement, I was stunned, and I said audibly, "I don't deserve it." Two words flashed before my "inward eye": "Unworthy" and "Others." "Unworthy" is the title of a song which James and Inez Mitchell sang at the Southwestern Association when it met with us at our little church on Polk Street. It is a word which has come to my mind through the years when all of you and so many others have helped me in so many ways. You have shared our joys and sorrows. When days have been difficult, you have imparted strength and courage for the days ahead. Our joys have been multiplied because of you all. The one present who has shared our joys and sorrows for the longest time deserves special mention. It is my sister, Bernice Flanagan. The one who has been on the scene the shortest length of time is my great-grandson, Michael Seager Jackson.

"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels and have not love, I am become as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal. . . And now abideth Faith, Hope, Love, these three; and the greatest of these is Love." (1 Cor. 13:1,13) I have Faith in God. I believe in His Son, Jesus Christ, whom He sent to this earth to bring salvation to us all. I have Hope in Eternal Life. I have deep and abiding Love and gratitude for my parents who provided a Christian home, I am thankful for my brother and sisters and their families, for Lloyd's parents, Rev. and Mrs. L. D. Seager, their

(Continued on page 28)

especially grateful for this because Dr. Seager was one of the doctors on the team which developed the oral vaccine for polio. He also perfected oral penicillin and orinase, one of the oral treatments for diabetes.

Dr. Seager also did research in the field of tranquilizers, cardiac drugs, and raw drug testing techniques. He established the field of basic toxicology in Arkansas and trained the first State Toxicologist. All this time Oma took on extra duties and home responsibilities so he could be free to work in these areas.

For many years Oma and her family lived far away from a Seventh Day Baptist church so they had Sabbath worship in their home. To make the break from home to church special, they would go out their back door and come in the front door to begin their worship. They continued this in both Memphis, Tennessee, and later in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In Philadelphia an SDB Fellowship was formed as a result of their efforts.

They moved to Little Rock, Arkansas, where Dr. Lloyd became head of the Pharmacology Department at the University of Arkansas Medical School. They continued their Sabbath worship, joining with two other Sabbathkeeping families for fellowship. They began to work toward attracting other Seventh Day Baptists and eventually were successful in forming a Fellowship and then a church, the Little Rock Seventh Day Baptist Church from which have grown other churches.

"Aunt Oma" as she is known by many, has served her church in Little Rock at various times as Treasurer, Clerk, Worship Leader, and as an outstanding example of Christian love. She is a wonderful cook, as all who attend the fellowship dinners know. She freely shared her recipes with the other ladies.

Any time sickness or death strikes the families of her acquaintances, she is the first to help. She has provided food, clothing, and a gentle and loving sympathy that has been invaluable to those of us who have been recipients. For many years, she and her husband carried the main financial burden of the local church and their home was always available to the church family. She continues this service even though, since the death of her husband, she lives in an apartment.

Oma and Dr. Lloyd have been strong supporters of the Southwestern Association and of Camp Miles. Many times they provided financial

assistance so children could attend camp. They are both well-known throughout the General Conference of Seventh Day Baptists, and Oma has served for many years on the Committee on Obituaries.

Oma kept the home front responsibilities going, serving in the background, while Dr. Lloyd served on Commission of the General Conference, as Conference President, and as a delegate to the organizational meeting of the World Council of Churches in Upsala, Sweden.

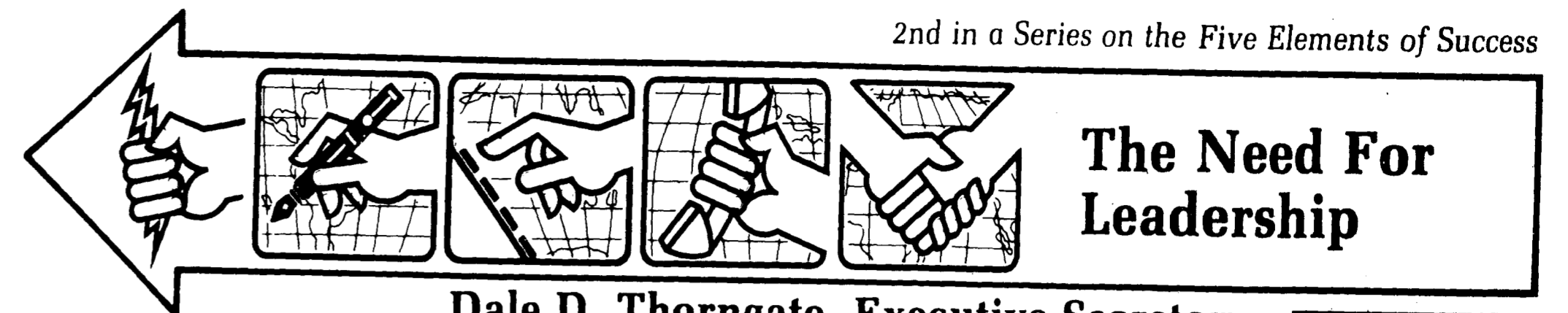
after their move to Little Rock, Oma taught English in Capitol Business College. Then she taught second grade at Park Hill Elementary for ten years. When she was forced to retire from teaching in the public schools because of age requirements, she taught in St. Teresa Catholic School for two additional years. She still remains in touch with many of her former students and their families.

Oma has been active in the P.T.A. organizations and served in many capacities in the Medical Auxillary. She has been active in interdenominational fellowships, giving loving service and Sabbath witness where possible.

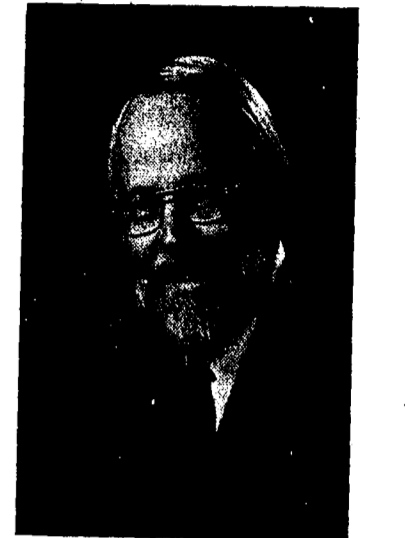
Oma always gets acquainted with the children and gives them her attention with unfailing courtesy. It is beautiful to see children respond to her. She has passed her love for children and young people on to her three children: Irving D., a teacher in Parkview High School and a Deacon in the Little Rock Church; Miriam Braswell of Jacksonville, Florida, and Loretta Durst of Houston, Texas.

The following are remarks heard about Oma: She is a beautiful lady. . . She exhibits Christian love. . . She is the kind of person I would like to be. . . She truly shows the compassion of Christ. . . She is a true example of a Christian lady. . . She is just the greatest. . . She is always there to help.

We believe that Oma P. Seager is truly the epitome of the virtuous woman described in Proverbs 31. And as her husband many times stated his love and respect for her, we know that "the heart of her husband could safely trust in her." "Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, he praiseth her. She opens her mouth with wisdom and in her tongue is the law of kindness. Many daughters have done virtuously, but she excels them all." Now, we want to "give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own words praise her in the gates." □



Dale D. Thorngate, Executive Secretary



Last month's column focused on the need for vision and the way in which God communicates His plan to us. This month's focus: the importance of leadership to the success of any organization or venture.

My responsibilities during the week of this writing seemed to focus on leadership. Last Sabbath Day the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Columbus, Ohio ordained its pastor, Perry L. Cain, to the Gospel ministry. Ordination is the most significant way that we as a people have of recognizing and confirming our church leaders.

Next Sabbath Day I will be participating in two similar kinds of recognition ceremonies, the installation of Rev. Herbert E. Saunders as pastor of the Milton, Wisconsin church and the commissioning of their former pastor, Rev. Earl Cruzan, as church extension and outreach pastor serving the western Wisconsin and northern Illinois area.

In between these two very significant weekends I will be spending time with General Conference President Dorothy Parrott to deal with the goals and work of the Conference for 1982. Through all of this I am keenly aware of the importance of good leadership and the part it plays in the success of the Seventh Day Baptist denomination—in our "Ministry of Reconciliation."

The quality of leadership has been defined as "the ability to get the job done through people." A definition that I like even better, however, is "enabling people to be fulfilled while reaching agreed upon goals." In his book, *The Gathering of Strangers*, Robert Worley states: "The successful organization has one major attribute that sets it apart from unsuccessful organizations: dynamic and effective leadership." To be dynamic and effective, I believe, also requires creativity.

A **creative leader** is one who senses God's vision in his or her daily activities and is able to communicate that vision to people in such a way that they can also see the vision and want to be a part of it. When confronted with a "we-have-always-done-it-that-way-before" attitude, the creative leader envisions a different way to do it.

A **dynamic leader** is one who is aggressive, positive and inspiring. He is always thinking ahead and planning for the future. This individual is not one to assume anything, but to look at all the possibilities. He envisions problems before they occur and dreams up the solutions. There is a constant communication going on between the decision makers and those who will be affected by the decision.

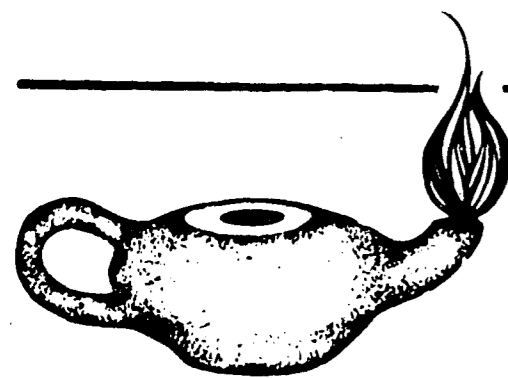
An **effective leader** is one who gets the job done. Goals are set, plans are made, and people feel good about what they are doing. The creative, dynamic, effective leader must be constantly thinking, planning, selling ideas and evaluating.

Such qualities are as essential in church leaders as in any others. Robert Schuller in his book, *Your Church Has Real Possibilities*, says, "There is no substitute for dynamic, aggressive, positive, inspiring leadership!" In referring to the pastor he indicates that "leadership is to be in the hands of a living human being who is constantly thinking, praying, reaching out and constantly surrendering himself to the Holy Spirit of Christ."

The Jethro Principle

Peter Wagner sees such leadership as a key to church growth. In *Your Church Can Grow*, he states: "In America, the primary catalytic factor for growth in a local church is the pastor." However, he also says, "No pastor, regardless of how gifted he is, can make a church grow alone." The pastor is an enabler with every member a minister. Worley again states: "Leadership is a function of the people as much as it is of the leaders. Strong, educated, resourceful people do not tolerate unilateral, authoritative leadership."

(Continued on page 28)



Thy Word is a light...

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Mrs. Mary Clare

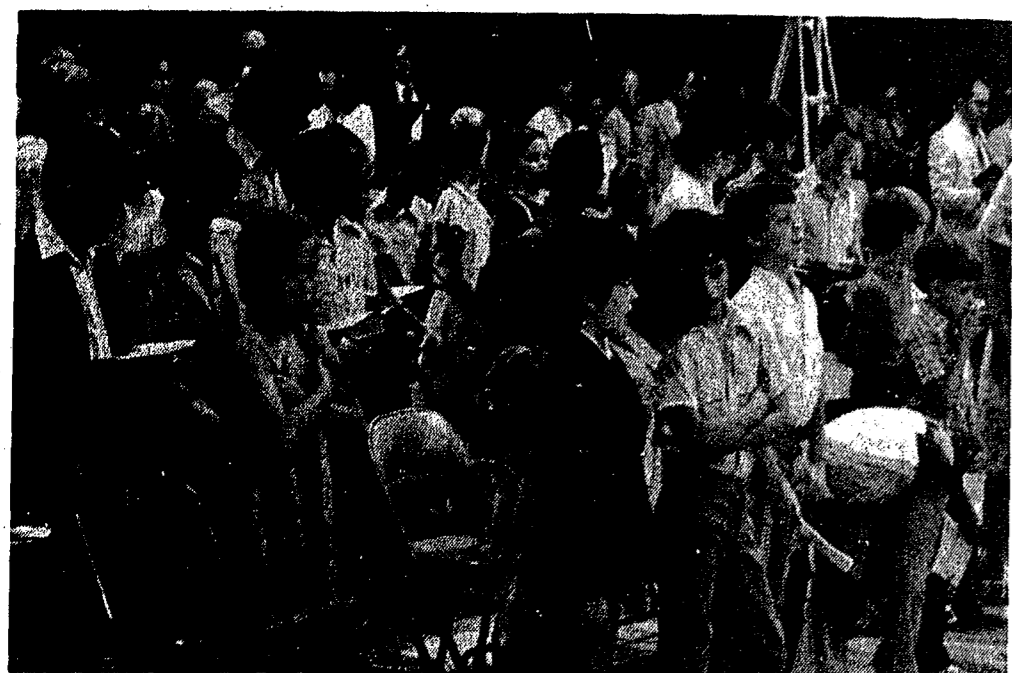
SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION HONOR ROLL

Members of the Church School Committee of the Board of Christian Education, Inc., are delighted with the response to the Scripture Memorization HONOR ROLL program. We know more churches participated than were reported at Conference.

SPECIAL NOTICE: If names of your students who qualified for the HONOR ROLL did not get reported, please send them to the SDB Board of Christian Education, 15 S. Main St., Alfred, NY, 14802.

It is interesting that the majority of students who earned the Certificates are in the Pre-School - Primary age groups, (31); Junior and Junior High (12). We make special mention of two Junior High Youths, Bob Driver and Steve Osborn, who learned 32 and 31 verses respectively, the designated number being 24 for their group. They will be blessed if that attitude of doing more than required continues throughout their lives.

We commend the efforts of those students who learned some of the scriptures although not enough verses to receive a certificate. We look forward to seeing their names in the list of those who receive certificates next year.



Congratulations to the students and their teachers who earned certificates in August 1981:

NAME	AGE GROUP	CHURCH
Bryan McPherson	Pre-Kindergarten	Raritan Valley, Bridgewater, NJ
Ryan Holgate	Kindergarten	Riverside, CA
Fred Soncrant	Kindergarten	Riverside
Emily Davis	Kindergarten	Riverside
Janson Nichols	Kindergarten	Riverside
Napoleon deZaldiver	Junior	Riverside
Bob Driver	Junior High	Riverside
Shaun C.C. Walsh	Junior	New York City
Dianne M. M. Ross	Junior High	New York City
Heidi Gilmore	Nursery	Milton, WI
Becky Looftboro	Nursery	Milton
Nikki Cruzan	Nursery	Milton
Angie Gilmore	Primary	Milton
Mandi Cruzan	Primary	Milton
Jennifer Lippincott	Primary-Junior	Milton
Laura Hess	Junior	Milton
Heather Greene	Kindergarten	Dodge Center, MN
Jancinta Neher	Kindergarten	Dodge Center
Rachel Neher	Kindergarten	Dodge Center
Brian Payne	Kindergarten	Dodge Center
Ryan Bonser	Kindergarten	Dodge Center
Karma Theilbar	Primary	Dodge Center
Tanya Bonser	Primary	Dodge Center
Tray Zincke	Primary	Dodge Center
Steve Osborn	Junior High	Dodge Center
Philip Greene	Junior	Dodge Center
Holly Greene	Junior	Dodge Center
Jamie Zincke	Junior	Dodge Center
Greg Johnson	Junior	Dodge Center
Ryan Stapp	Kindergarten	Nortonville, KS
James Trower	Junior High	Nortonville
Mark Camenga	Nursery	Upper E. TN
Grace Camenga	Kindergarten	Upper E. TN
Danielle Dixon	Kindergarten	Shiloh, NJ
Duane Martin	Kindergarten	Salem, WV
Amy Van Horn (Hambleton)	Primary	Daytona Beach, FL
Richard Crouch	Primary	Daytona Beach
Kristin Rood	Kindergarten	Pawcatuck, RI
Scott Graffius	Kindergarten	North Loup, NE
Korey Condison	Kindergarten	Toronto, Ont., Canada
Aaron Sudbury	Kindergarten	Roselle, IL
Jeremy Burdick	Kindergarten	Riverside, CA
Jeffrey Hazen	Nursery	Washington, DC

1982 SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION HONOR ROLL REQUIREMENTS

Because of the positive reaction to the 1981 Scripture Learning Honor Roll program, we are offering students an opportunity to participate again in 1982. All students will be learning portions of the Psalms which praise God as creator or give assurance of His everlasting love and care. In recognition of the ability for older youths to learn and understand at a higher level, they are required to learn whole Psalms

rather than portions listed for young children.

We suggest FAMILIES as well as CLASSES become involved in Scripture learning. It is never too late to begin the habit of committing scripture to memory and the blessings are many for those who know and understand the words of GOD.

The requirements for earning the 1982 HONOR ROLL CERTIFICATE are as follows:

Psalm Numbers Verse Numbers For Each Age Group (W-Whole Psalm)

	Kindergarten	Primary	Junior	Junior High
Psalm 1	6	1-3	W	W
Psalm 8	1	3-4	1-4	W
Psalm 18	1	1-3	20-24	20-30
Psalm 19	1	1-4	7-10	W
Psalm 23	1	1-3	W	W
Psalm 24	1	1-2	W	W
Psalm 100	1	1-2	W	W
Psalm 117	1a	W	W	W
Psalm 118	1	1-4	1-4	1-9
Psalm 121	1	1-2	W	W
Psalm 136	1	1-3	1-9	1-9
Psalm 150	1a	1-2	W	W

Number of Verses/Psalms to be learned:

Kindergarten	- 6 verses
Primary	- 6 groups of verses
Junior	- 4 whole Psalms and 1 group of verses
Junior High	- 6 whole Psalms or substitute 1 group of verses for 1 Psalm

ATTENTION: YOUTH AND YOUTH LEADERS!

The youth attending the business meeting of the National Youth Fellowship at Salem, WV, August 2, 1981, made the following decisions:

- The **BEACON** would continue to be published monthly by the SDB Board of Christian Education.
- The editors would be members of the National Youth Ministries Committee.
- The subscription price would be \$2 per year.
- Each youth would send his/her name to the Board Office, 15 S. Main St., Alfred, NY 14802 with the subscription price by January 1, 1982 to receive direct mailing.
- Churches will continue to receive BEACONS in quantity until January; cost \$2 per subscription.

ORDER FORM:

I would like to receive a copy of the **BEACON** by direct mail. The subscription cost of \$2.00 is enclosed.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

STEWARDSHIP IS GLORIFYING GOD

(Continued from page 15)

Always look to him in awe at his greatness and his goodness. What is it that we need? We may have many desires of which the majority are selfish because we are thinking primarily of what we would like rather than what we need. We fail to thank God often-times for the blessings that he bestows upon us, because our likes determine our wants, and we begin to think that our likes are our needs.

Those who obey the Lord lack nothing good. As a steward of God, we should praise him. We should glorify God that he has put the trust in us that we know. He has entrusted this universe to our dominion. Do we praise him for that, or just take it for granted, and then complain when the selfishness of people seem to despoil the resources of the universe?

Let's praise Him and then apply ourselves to good stewardship—praising God for the abundance that there is in this earth for us and others, seeking his will that we may learn how to take from earth those things that are needed for our generation and the next. Let us praise God as he gives us new knowledge of energy and its use, of more abundant harvests, etc. Let's praise God. These resources have always been here; mankind has just begun to discover them.

Let us praise God and glorify him forever because we know that we are a part of his family, that he has redeemed us unto himself. He has promised us eternal life with Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Let us show that we are stewards of God by praising him, by glorifying his name. Let us continually thank him for life now and eternally. Let our lives be a "thank-you" to God. Let us testify to the world that our joy, our peace, our happiness come because we know God and accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

FOCUS



MISSIONS TODAY

● **EUROPE-As Field Representative of the SDB World Federation, Brother Jan Lek continues to keep ties with those of like faith in several countries, publishing THE LINK in three languages—Dutch, German and English. A printing press has obtained to help in the literature outreach.**

● **WASHINGTON, DC—**Received 11 telephone responses during quarter (ending June 30) from the WORD OF TRUTH (radio) program. Sent 9 tapes of radio messages; enrolled 9 in Bible Correspondence course (21 lessons sent). Pastor Leland Davis directed and taught Teen-Time for 19 youth (ages 12-17) mostly from the community, June 20-24 with some follow-up. Secured 9 decisions for Christ!

● **CZECHOSLOVAKIA—**The church members at Ostrava are planning to dedicate their new building by October and look for Jan Lek and family to be with them. Jan hopes to be able to visit churches and brethren in Poland en route. The pastor and three others were able to visit the Netherlands this summer and have fellowship with Seventh Day Baptists there.

● **UPPER EAST TENN—**Many more people are aware of us now that we have church property and many see our sign. In June we had a Bible Club at the Church Center with 11 in attendance. Wybe Camp was scheduled in July. Watch for a full report.

● **NEW CONTACTS—EUROPE—**The Salem, WV, church has a new member living in Finland. There are new contacts in France and continuing correspondence with those in Switzerland and other countries. Europe is a "mission field" with great need and opening response in

some places. Prayer is needed for leadership and for wisdom by Christians in their witness and work. How can/should we help them?

● **BAY AREA, CA—**"Seeing genuine spiritual growth. New faces seen in worship." The WORD OF TRUTH has been on the air twice a week, at 6 a.m. on a San Francisco station for about six weeks (May/June). So far we have seen no results. "Nearly all of the people attending our church are working hard toward growth. We are again evaluating our goals, and our reasons for wanting growth. One young man who attended our church for the first time in the first quarter of this year has started attending fairly regularly. He has brought visitors with him several times."

● **POLAND—**One of the leaders of the sister churches was to visit the Netherlands and Jan Lek this fall. Reports indicate an openness to the gospel and growth. One congregation is raising funds to purchase its own church building.

● **JAMAICA—**Pastor Vincent Smith continues to lead the Jamaica SDB Conference as their president for another year. The annual session in July was held with the Albion Mountain SDB Church. The 1982 session will be at the Bowensville SDB Church with the theme, "DOING GOD'S WILL FROM THE HEART"—Eph. 6:6 (key verse).

● **AUSTRALIA—**The Second Annual Australasian SDB Conference was held in July. Pastor Ronald Barrar had opportunity to speak at the Brisbane Adventist Forum on "Why I Am a Seventh Day Baptist." A new Bible Study on Sabbath is being held at Gympie (between Bundaburg and Brisbane in Queensland) once a month.

PRAYER

CORNER

A Prayer Reminder for Each Day!!

NOVEMBER 1981

Verse for the month: "Ask, and you will be given what you ask for. Seek, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened. For everyone who asks, receives. Anyone who seeks, finds. If only you will knock, the door will open."

-Matt. 7:7,8 TLB

PRAY FOR:

- 1-Executive Secretary Dale D. Thorngate, Plainfield, NJ
- 2-Coordinating Leadership Team (CLT) meeting in Plainfield, NJ
- 3-Light Bearers for Christ
- 4-Brother Jan Lek and family in The Netherlands
- 5-Rev. Robert Harris as he begins his pastorate in Albion, WI
- 6-New students at Likubula Bible Institute, Blantyre, Malawi, Africa
- 7-Sabbath School Mission Offering—SSMO
- 8-New dean for Center on Ministry, Rev. J. Paul Green, Jr.
- 9-Church Extension Pastor John Peil at San Diego, CA
- 10-Pastors who are considering calls to churches
- 11-The pastors in our sister churches in South Africa
- 12-Rev. Edgar Wheeler as he begins his pastorage in Nortonville, KS
- 13-Missionaries Rodney and Camille Henry, Cebu City, The Philippines
- 14-Those who teach children's Sabbath School
- 15-Doneta Richards, as she works in the General Conference office
- 16-Church Extension Pastor Bill Shobe at Atlanta, GA
- 17-Newly elected General Conference Trustees in the Milton, WI, area
- 18-Missionaries David and Bettie Pearson, Blantyre, Malawi, Africa
- 19-Floy Owen as she leads the Women's Board
- 20-Guidance as the Seventh Day Baptist Center is established in Janesville, WI
- 21-Decision to Discipleship groups in our churches
- 22-Baptist World Alliance (BWA) meetings in Washington, DC, this week
- 23-Church Extension Pastor Bill Shoffner at Memphis, TN
- 24-Pastor's Retirement Offering Project (PROP)
- 25-Churches without pastors
- 26-Let us be thankful for the spiritual blessings God showers on us
- 27-Grace to translate THANKSGIVING into THANKS-LIVING
- 28-Our World Mission support—that we may reach/exceed our goal this year
- 29-The work of our Lord in the Philippines/Pastors of the several churches
- 30-Field Pastor John Camenga, the Carolinas and Eastern Tennessee

the CHURCH in ACTION



These three ladies were present at the Australasia Conference from the Auckland, NZ, church. They are Lucy Westerdal, Margy Westerdal, and Dorothy Goulding. Sister Goulding is the daughter of the late Rev. Francis Johnson long-time pastor in Auckland. Her great wish is to attend the next World Federation meeting in the USA.

OCTOBER-BWA WORLD HUNGER MONTH

The Baptist World Alliance General Council, meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico, approved a recommendation of the Relief and Development Committee that October be designated as "BWA World Hunger Month."

Many individuals and churches ask, "What can we do?" The Baptist World Alliance with its 123 member bodies in 90 countries has extensive contacts with reliable Christian organizations involved in feeding the hungry. In addition, the BWA, through its Relief and Development Division, has approved projects which work to alleviate the causes of hunger: water projects, poultry farms, fishing ponds, agriculture and seed projects, insecticide projects, etc.

The plastic "World Hunger Rice Bowl" was adopted as an instrument for collecting funds. These may be obtained by writing to Baptist World Aid, 1628 Sixteenth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009. Alastair Walker, pastor from Spartanburg, South Carolina, originated this idea and graciously has given the BWA permission to use these rice bowls.

Associate Secretary Denton Lotz and Assistant Secretary Erna Redlich for Relief and Development encourage Baptist churches around the world to make October "World Hunger Month."

Collections and offerings should be sent to Baptist World Aid in Washington, DC. □

CONFERENCE HELD IN AUSTRALIA

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA — The second annual Conference of Seventh Day Baptists in Australia and New Zealand was held June 5-9, 1981 at Camp Carey in the Blue Mountains near Sydney. The theme was "Forward in Action." Among those attending were fourteen from New Zealand.

Pastor Ron Barrar introduced the Conference theme on Friday night by pointing out that the life of a Christian is a spiritual warfare. He stressed that in this warfare faith in God, preparation and speed are essential.

His sermon on Sabbath morning "After Grace What?" reminded us that we should have the right perspective of God's grace, and that being born from above is just the beginning of going forward in action. He urged that we not be selfish by keeping the wonderful gift of salvation to ourselves.

The afternoon meeting was led by Brother Daniel Barrar who challenged us to be shining lights for those around us by sharing the great love of Jesus. We all have various abilities which can be used for the

furtherance of God's work.

Sunday morning Brother Stefan Kube spoke on "Grace Through Suffering" as a part of an experience of a Christian, yet producing wonderful fruits of the Spirit, especially patience and compassion, even for the persecutors.

Pastor Atkin continued these thoughts on "Grace Through Love" in the Sunday evening meeting pointing to the humble Deacon Stephen who showed love in action by his prayer for his tormentors.

Due to circumstances Pastor Jose Alegre was not able to be present at the Conference, yet his wife Betty very ably presented his message "Grace Through Good Deeds" in the Monday evening meeting. It is Christ who created us and saved us for a specific purpose: that we should share God's grace by doing good as He did.

On Tuesday morning Brother Mervin Rudd, our new President, introduced the theme for the new year "No Turning Back." A seminar on church publications was held at the Conference. Brother L. Tarling, a professional free-lance writer, had some useful and positive suggestions regarding our church publications.

There were activities and programs for the youth. On Sabbath night they presented a Gospel program and a happy time of fellowship and games followed. Dorothea Shettel of the Riverside, CA, SDB Church in America was also present for the meetings.

—The Link

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY SABBATH

Let's observe American Bible Society Sabbath in October this year. Each church can decide on the Sabbath for Bible emphasis. We suggest that a special offering be taken for the American Bible Society. The check/gift can be sent through OWM marked for the American Bible Society, or it can be sent directly to the ABS. Be sure to indicate that it is from a Seventh Day Baptist so that we can receive proper credit. □

Ninety official delegates and friends gathered in Columbus, Ohio on Sabbath, September 5, 1981 to ordain Perry L. Cain for the Gospel ministry. Highlight of the day was the candidate's moving statement of Christian experience and belief, followed by his response to examination questions from the Ordination Council.

Rev. Cain is the pastor of the First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Columbus, Ohio which called him to ordination and hosted the many delegates and friends from the General Conference and the churches of the North Central Association and West Virginia.

In the Sabbath afternoon Service of Ordination which followed the council's vote to ordain the candidates, the Prayer of Consecration and laying on of hands was led by Rev. J. Paul Green, Jr., Dean of the Seventh Day Baptist Center on Ministry and former pastor of Perry's home church in Salem, West Virginia.

Dr. Melvin G. Nida, former Professor of Religion at Salem College and Perry's major advisor while he was in undergraduate school, brought the Charge to the Candidate.

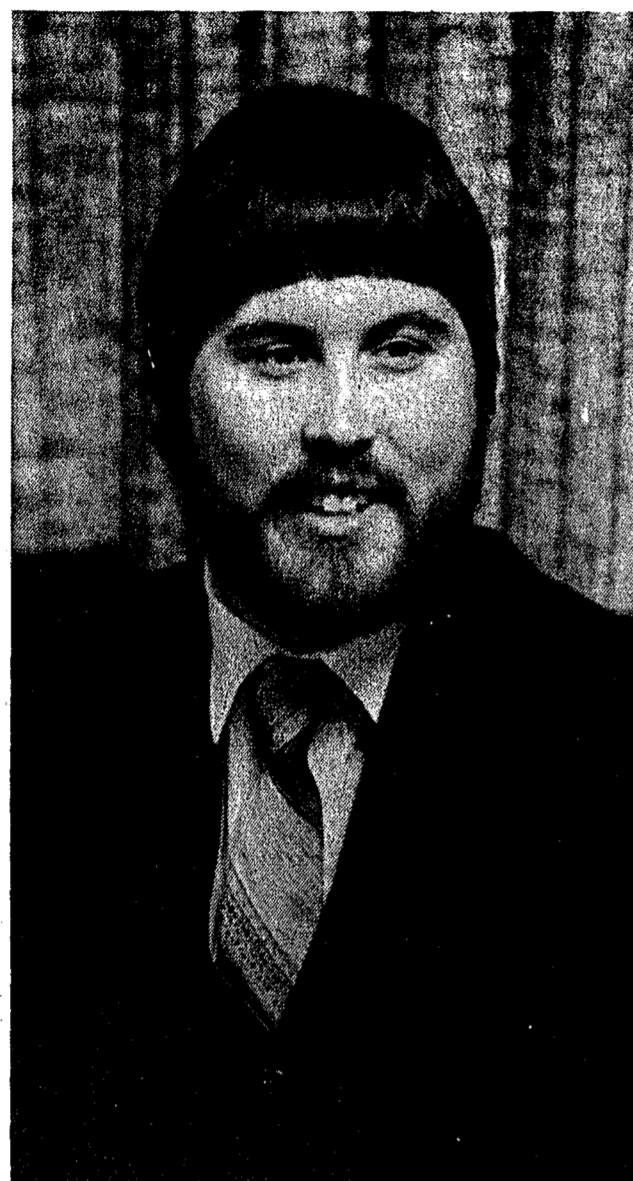
The Charge to the Church was given by Rev. Dale D. Thorngate, Executive Secretary of the General Conference and former pastor of the Columbus church. Rev. S. Kenneth Davis, pastor of the Battle Creek, church welcomed Rev. Cain to the ministry. A Certificate of Ordination was presented by George Chamberlin, Vice-President of the Columbus church.

Special music for the ordination service, as well as for the Sabbath morning worship, was provided by the Salem church choir and a double mixed quartet. Worship leader was Deacon Ernest F. Bond of Columbus, with Denise Green as organist.

Perry's wife, Christina Rogers Cain, was drawn into the questioning by the council and shared with her husband the laying on of hands during the dedication prayer.

Rev. Herbert E. Saunders, pastor of the Milton, Wisconsin, Seventh Day Baptist Church, preached the Sabbath morning sermon on "The

Aim of Our Charge" from 1 Timothy 1:5. Saunders was Dean of the denominational Center on Ministry during the time that Cain was a ministerial student and served as his supervisor during an intern-



Rev. Perry L. Cain

ORDINATION AT COLUMBUS

By Janet Thorngate

ship at the Conference offices in Plainfield, New Jersey.

Cain is a 1981 graduate of the Methodist Theological School in Ohio (Master of Divinity) and of Salem College in West Virginia (Bachelor of Arts 1977). During the last two years of his seminary work he served as assistant pastor of the Columbus church with Rev. Dale Thorngate. He is the second pastor of the church which was organized in 1976 and now has a congregation of about sixty people.

Other student assistant pastorates which provided Rev. Cain with experience were with Rev. J. Paul Green, Jr., in his home church in Salem during college, and with Rev. Charles Bond in Shiloh, New Jersey during the year that he attended Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Philadelphia.

The ordination weekend began with a special Sabbath Eve vesper service, "All God's Children Praise Him." The program of Scripture illustrated with colored slides and interspersed with hymns was prepared by Janet Thorngate with Jean Davis at the organ.

Official delegates to the Ordination Council included all members of the Columbus church who were present, plus representatives from the following churches: Battle Creek, MI; Milton WI; New Auburn, WI; Salem, WV; and Lost Creek, WV.

In addition to Rev. Thorngate and Rev. Green, the General Conference was represented by President Dorothy Parrott and President-Elect K. D. Hurley. Other ordained ministers participating included Rev. Clifford Hansen of Xenia, Ohio and Rev. Eldon Wilson, pastor of the New Covenant Church in which the Columbus congregation meets.

Delegates and friends shared Sabbath dinner together at a nearby cafeteria. Following the ordination service, which was over about 5:00 p.m., the Cains hosted the many travelers at their home.

The pastor's home serves as the new address for the Columbus church—5397 Ivyhurst Drive, Columbus, OH 43227; phone (614)863-0529. □

RECORDER REACTIONS

Since Conference adopted a resolution encouraging individuals and churches to become concerned with the abortion issue, I would make the following suggestions:

1. Economic and social pressures, combined with the availability of abortion, make it the 'easy way out' for many single mothers and for those families for whom another child would be a burden. The local church has sometimes contributed to the problem by condemning rather than helping. The most important thing Christians can do is to help. We should support emotionally, and assist financially, those mothers or families who are in difficulty.

2. Individuals in larger communities can support with time and contributions organizations like Birthright which assist mothers who might otherwise have abortions.

3. Individuals can write to their Congressman and their Senators indicating support for legislative changes to limit abortions. Politicians do pay attention to

letters since they assume that anyone who is motivated enough to write will also vote their convictions.

4. Finally, there are two organizations I would recommend to those individuals interested in becoming involved politically in the anti-abortion cause. The National Right to Life Committee (341 National Press Building, Washington, D.C. 20045) is the largest grass-roots organization with affiliates in every state and is primarily active in education, lobbying, and abortion counseling. The Ad Hoc Committee in Defense of Life (P.O. Box 574, Murray Hill Station, New York, N.Y. 10016) is a non-New Right political action organization which publishes a newsletter, *Lifeletter*, which is an excellent source of information.

I hope every Seventh Day Baptist will do what he or she can, consistent with conscience, to reduce the number of unborn killed in America.

James A. Skaggs
Madison, WI

THE NEED FOR LEADERSHIP

(Continued from page 19)

I am reminded of Jethro in Exodus 18. After observing that Moses is trying to make all the decisions for the people of Israel, Jethro says to him, "What you are doing is not good." He proceeds to explain how Moses can make others responsible by getting others involved in the leadership process. Jethro had a clear understanding of two very basic principles of management: span of control and delegation of authority.

Where are our leaders? The new Dean of the Center on Ministry, Rev. J. Paul Green, Jr. and I, as we begin our new positions of leadership, have discussed a great deal the need for new leaders within the denomination. We have many churches without pastors and new groups springing up across the country who need leaders. Not just anyone can be a leader, but I believe God will raise up among us the people He needs to lead us.

Please pray with me for these new creative, dynamic, effective people. Let us begin to identify the young men and women among us who have the God-given gift to lead us into the future. Let us encourage and nurture them with patience and faith. God has given us a vision—a "Ministry of Reconciliation." We need those who will lead us beyond the vision into the successful accomplishment of His plan. □

MINISTERIAL CHANGES

The Rev. Edgar F. Wheeler who has served the Denver, CO Church since August, 1976, has accepted the pastorate of the church in Nortonville, KS.

The Rev. Robert Harris has accepted the pastorate of the church in Albion, WI. He formerly served the Pine Street Gospel Chapel in Middletown, CT. □

UNLEAVENED COMMUNION BREAD

1½ cups whole wheat flour
1½ cups white flour
¼ cup cooking oil
(1 cup if using vegetable shortening)
1 t. salt
¼ cup ice water
Mix dry ingredients with oil and water—stirring quickly to form a soft dough. Divide into small portions and roll each out on a well-floured pastry sheet until quite thin. Square off corners to fit a baking sheet—place on baking sheet—then score in small squares and prick each square with a fork. Bake at 225 degrees above 15 to 20 minutes—until lightly browned. □

—Ruth Horsley

RESPONSE

(Continued from page 17)

children and families, for our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and for Christians of all Faiths because they are of the family of Christ of which I am a member. I have deep concern for those who do not believe.

The word "Others" which I mentioned is the title of a theme song which was used at General Conference a few years ago. I do want to say that anything of any consequence that I have done through the years has been because of the initial suggestions, encouragement and help of others. You are among the others.

Many years ago, my grandson, Frank Braswell, asked me if I loved all my children just the same. My response was: "Do you love all your friends just the same? I have a special niche in my heart for each person I know, and I believe you do too." There is a special niche for each of you who have meant so much to me through the years.

Thank you for this honor. I love you. God bless you! □

**WHAT A CARING
MINISTRY MEANS TO ME**

(Continued from page 3)

response to a person makes all the difference in the world." This became changed when: "I was able to talk with someone who cares. I can't remember when I was able to do that. Maybe never."

Marcelene further expressed herself:

"The most important thing is that I really and truly feel that you accept me as I am—not as if I were some kind of freak to be laughed at. Instead of laughing, you are there to give me an encouraging word when you feel I need it. That's called 'caring', isn't it? In addition to this, I know you listen to everything I say, no matter what it is and want to help me to accept myself . . . not only as what I am, but as what I can be!

"I truly feel at peace with God and am closer to Him now than at anytime in my life. Since I have known you, I have grown to love God so much more than I did before. I don't believe I've ever been this happy before in my life. I have found our very dearest friend JESUS!"

As a result, an emotional and spiritual healing miracle of God took place in her life over a period of a year.

Pastor Earl Cruzan said in a sermon he gave on July 28, 1979, in the Milton church, "Christians need to reach out and care for people, and not be afraid to help people in a caring, loving and intimate way." His statement melted into me. I can't fully explain why this is so, but I have found, since becoming a chaplain, the ability or the gift of being able to do just exactly this.

"Each of us enters a door for which we are ready," said a thoughtful lay-speaker to our Madison SDB Fellowship on a recent Sabbath.

I frequently find myself on holy ground with counselees - I say it this way because we get in touch with the deepest springs of a person's dynamic life forces. This is both scary and challenging at the same time. And it is not without its risks, but it is a door in my life the Lord has opened. My joy is full when hurting people experience healing, and this gives meaning to my life. People are precious to God and they come to appreciate this when they sense they are first precious to me or to you.

Our humanity is very complex, and it is also interrelated in a fourfold way, based on psychology and on the Scriptures. Internally - that is, within ourselves - every person is an intellectual being, an emotional being, a physical being, and a spiritual being. Externally - that is in relationship to others - each person is a social being - the totality of himself internally in his relationship with others. I have to be necessarily brief here, but wholeness of one's being depends on the health of the mind, the soul, the body, and

the spirit. Sickness, pain, brokenness, disease and suffering come into us initially through any of the four areas of our being, but the suffering affects all the other areas of our being.

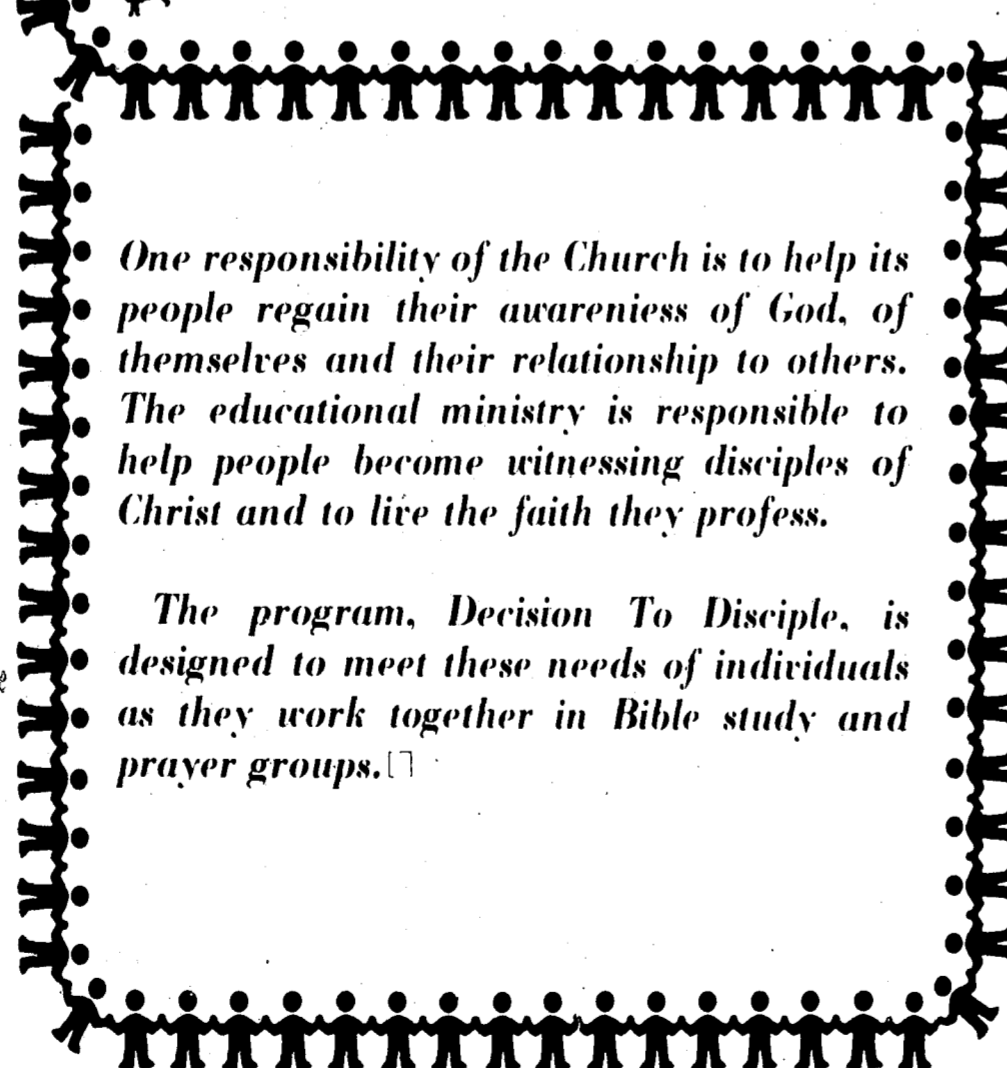
Psychosomatic illness is but one example of this. Because we are internally interrelated, the other areas of our being do not remain unaffected by the suffering of one area. When one part suffers, all the rest of us suffers.

As a chaplain and a counselor in a caring ministry I see my role as touching not only the soul on spiritual issues, but also the heart on emotional and feeling issues, and the mind on intellectual issues. While I am not a physician to minister to physical illness, yet the handshake or a hug is frequently appropriate and desired. Someone's pain and hurting cannot be adequately treated by appealing to only one area of our humanity nor with oversimplistic solutions. I agree with Clyde M. Narramore, a Christian psychologist, when he said: "Every Person Is Worth Understanding."

From Mark 12:30,31 I have caught a new dimension to one of the greatest teachings of the Master Himself.

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart (emotions), and with all your soul (spirit), and with all your mind (intellect), and with all your strength (body). The second is this, You shall love your neighbor (social relationship) as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." □

Decade of Discipleship



One responsibility of the Church is to help its people regain their awareness of God, of themselves and their relationship to others. The educational ministry is responsible to help people become witnessing disciples of Christ and to live the faith they profess.

The program, Decision To Disciple, is designed to meet these needs of individuals as they work together in Bible study and prayer groups. □



was . I just can't keep any more.

and really bother me. They are always fussing. They are always poking at each other. They do things that are not good.

I just can not keep .

tapped on the shoulder.

Remember that **U** can not keep on **Ur** own.

Only Jesus can do it. When **U** do not feel like and showing

His . Talk to Jesus and let him do it through **U**.

MATTHEW 5:3 BLESSED ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT, FOR THEIRS IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.



MUSIC



NOTES

by
Arthur Rowe

CONFERENCE MUSIC 1981.

Noisy air-conditioners and poor acoustics hampered the singers and instrumentalists who sought to transform the gymnasium of Salem College into a place of praise and inspiration. But a listener with willing heart and open mind could find many blessings in the musical offerings. Conference music director Lois Wells sought to achieve a balance between classical and popular styles, and, I think, succeeded.

No doubt each registrant found his or her own favorites during the week. These were mine:

—Linda Lawton singing "Surely the Presence of the Lord Is in This Place"—Monday morning.

—The Salem SDB Church choir at Monday vespers, selections chosen, director Ruth Rogers told me, by the choir members themselves, and including some fine a cappella work, a tradition with this choir.

—The trio presenting the premiere of a new arrangement of "All Things Bright and Beautiful," Mary Lou Ham, soprano, Tammy Mickel, violin, and Lois Wells, piano—Wednesday morning.

—Jim Warner's personable, joyful vespers on Wednesday evening. How often have you experienced "The Lord's Prayer" as a sing-along?

—Herb Saunders' solo, "The Penitent"—Thursday evening.

—The informal Toronto choir when they finally let loose with an up-tempo, hand-clapping Jamaican chorus!

Recordings of 1981 Conference music are available from Calvin Babcock, 605 W. Holly St., Carthage, TX 78835. Cal says, "Please remember that we are recording under less than studio conditions."

CONCERT REVIEW: ANDRUS, BLACKWOOD, & CO. (ABC).

Two former members of the renowned Imperials, Terry Blackwood (he's white) and Sherman Andrus (he's black) have teamed up to form a group which has emerged as one of the most popular in current Christian music. They were in concert recently in a comfortable, but less-than-half-full, concert hall in Huntsville, AL.

Sherman and Terry, with almost interchangeable voices, alternate on lead vocals. Whoever isn't on lead is joining with the pianist and bass player to produce the silky smooth background vocals which, no doubt, are the "saving grace" of ABC's music, in the ears of those not accustomed to the contemporary sound. While the bugbear of many listeners, excessive instrumental volume, was sometimes present, obscuring the words, the overall volume was only moderately loud. Instruments used included drums, congas, electric guitar, saxophone, synthesizer, electric and acoustic piano, and bass guitar.

A wry, self-deprecating humor characterized the entertaining first portion, which included their '50's-style "Jesus, You're So



Wonderful." Before intermission this mood had given way to an audience-shared time of praise music. The second half included some quieter, slower songs; nearly all the group members gave a word of personal testimony. An appeal was made, both for first-time commitment to Christ and for full surrender.

ABC are more relaxed and slower-paced on stage than are the Imperials. One notices too that they're all smiling, clearly enjoying their work. An ABC album or concert would make a good introduction for the newcomer to the world of contemporary Christian music. □

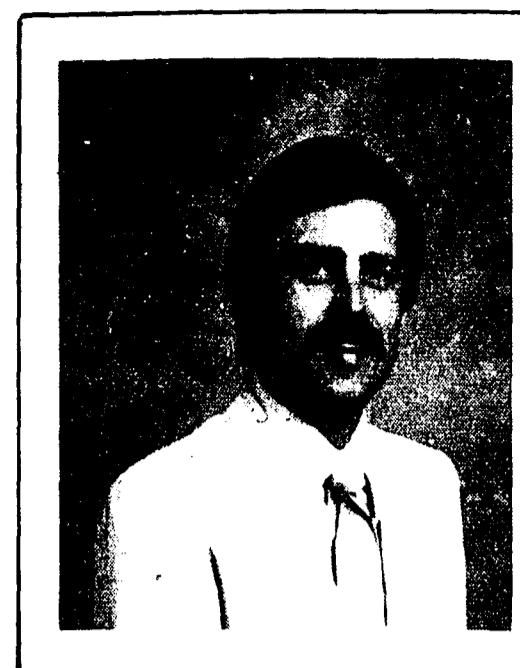
EDITORIAL

(Continued from page 31)

articles and theme issues for 1982. As always we invite our readers to let us know what you would like to see in your publication.

During 1982 we are planning several theme sections of the SABBATH RECORDER that will feature Foreign Missions, Stewardship, the Resurrection, Christian Social issues, Church Growth, the Christian Family and the Resurrection Season. The Advisory Committee meets quarterly to advise the editor, make editorial policy and plan for future issues. The chairman of this committee is Philip Bond of Shiloh, N.J.

We appreciate the many letters of support and your kind words at Conference. May the Lord continue to guide and bless as we seek to publish the "good news" of His church and of His coming kingdom. □



EDITORIAL

Seventh Day Baptists in our Conference look to the SABBATH RECORDER to keep them informed and to provide inspirational articles. The SABBATH RECORDER goes into homes in some twenty-two countries and is indeed the tie that binds us together through the written word.

We are happy to see that several Seventh Day Baptist Conferences are also publishing monthly or quarterly papers. The Dutch Seventh Day Baptist Conference has published *Ons Anker* (*The Anchor*) for many years. *Ons Anker* serves our four Dutch churches and scattered believers in several countries. My Dutch vocabulary is limited to about dozen words but with the help of my Dutch-English dictionary I am able to get the meaning of most articles.

From the most recent issue of ONS ANKER we learned that the Dutch Conference was held September 4-6, 1981 at the Haarlem S.D.B. Church. The theme was *Gij Zult Mijn Getuigen Zijn* (You Are My Witnesses).

Our Dutch brethren publish THE LINK also known as *De Schakel* or *Das Kettenglied* with articles in English, Dutch and German. THE LINK serves as the European contact periodical for Seventh Day Baptists.

The most recent edition had an article on the Great Commission by Elder Jaap Nieuwstraten; The Pearson's Prayer Letter, by Joanna Pearson of our mission in Malawi; and an update on Seventh Day Baptist missions in Africa complete with map. The editors for THE LINK are Jan Lek, J. A. Nieuwstraten and Hans Sizmann.

Rev. B. John V. Rao serves as editor of the monthly Seventh Day Baptist NEWSLETTER for the members of the India Conference. The July, 1981, issue has highlights of the work from the various fields in India. An appeal for funds to help give education opportunities for orphans and poor children in three areas where we have an organized work is made.

The NEWSLETTER reports revival meetings in three villages with a total of 11 baptisms. It is reported that a fund has been started to build a headquarters church in Nellore.

LINK is the Seventh Day Baptist Newsletter in the Australasia Conference (Australia and New Zealand) with Stefan A. Kube as editor. This quarter serves our going work "down under" with four groups in Australia and two in New Zealand plus many scattered believers.

The highlights of their recent Conference are shared and a listing of meeting places and times of service of the Conference churches and groups. It is reported that the Melbourne church of which Jose Alegre is pastor, has a new meeting place. Services are held at the Uniting Church, Nicholson and Miller Streets in East Brunswick. The inauguration service was attended by 60 persons.

It is good to have even a brief look into what our other Conferences are doing with their publications. At the present time we are planning for special

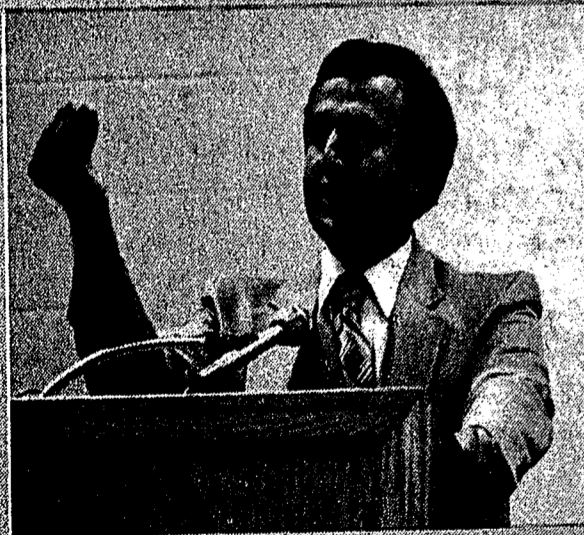
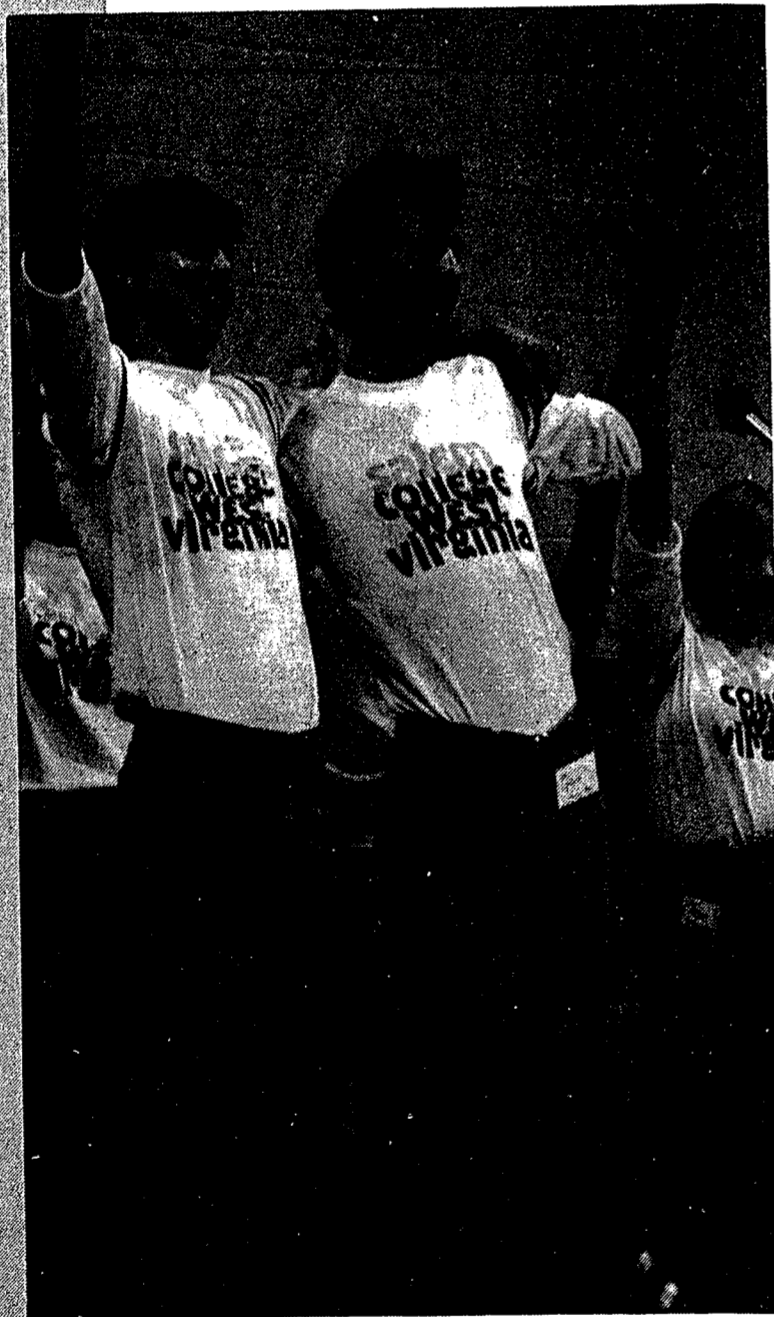
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**CONFERENCE 1981
SALEM COLLEGE, WV**



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

Second class postage paid at Plainfield, NJ 07061



Conference photos taken by Kenneth Burdick and Stephen Rogers.

THE SABBATH

OUR 137th YEAR

RECORDER

SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST

NOVEMBER 1981

