

GOD
LOVES
YOU

The Sabbath Recorder
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This is what love is: it is not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the means by which our sins are forgiven. - 1 John 4:10

For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life. - John 3:16

Because of his love, God had already decided that through Jesus Christ he would make us his sons — this was his pleasure and purpose. Let us praise God for his glorious grace, for the free gift he gave us in his dear Son! For by the death of Christ we are set free, that is, our sins are forgiven. How great is the grace of God, which he gave to us in such a large measure.

- Ephesians 1:5-8

This love I speak of means that we must live in obedience to God's commands. The command, as you have heard from the beginning, is that you must all live in love.

- 2 John 6

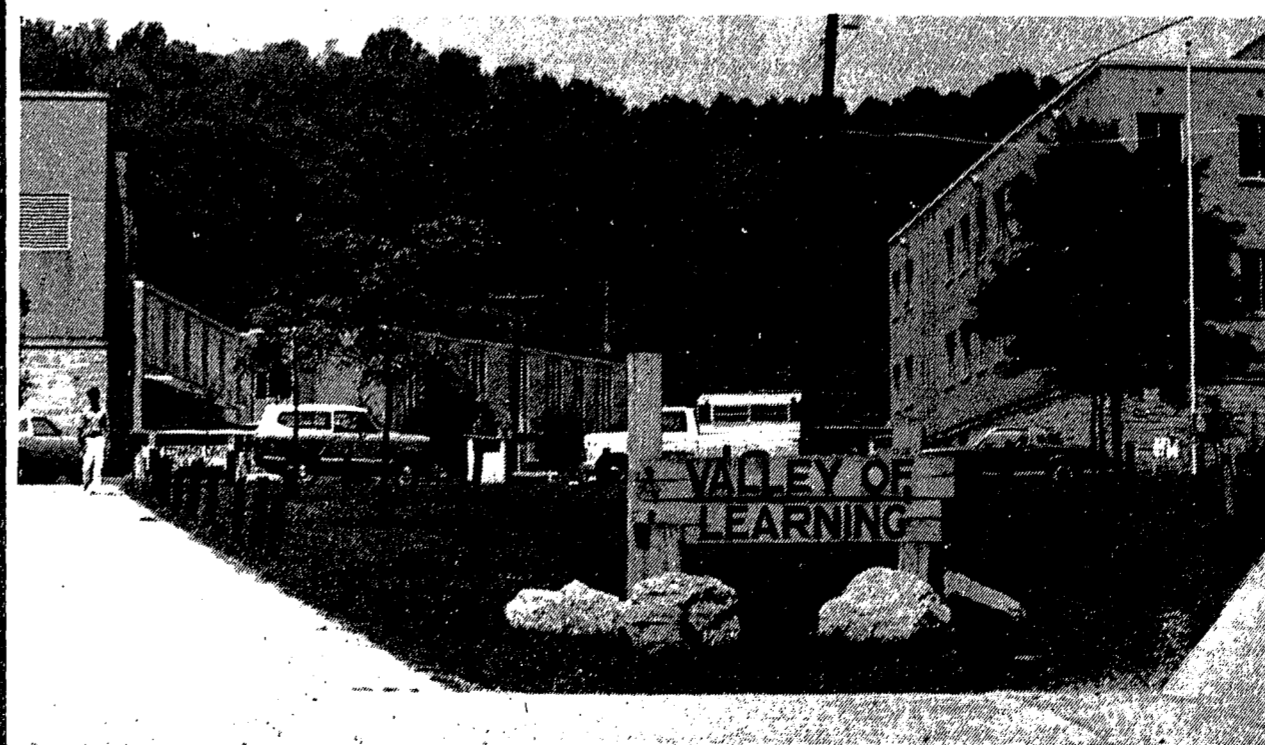
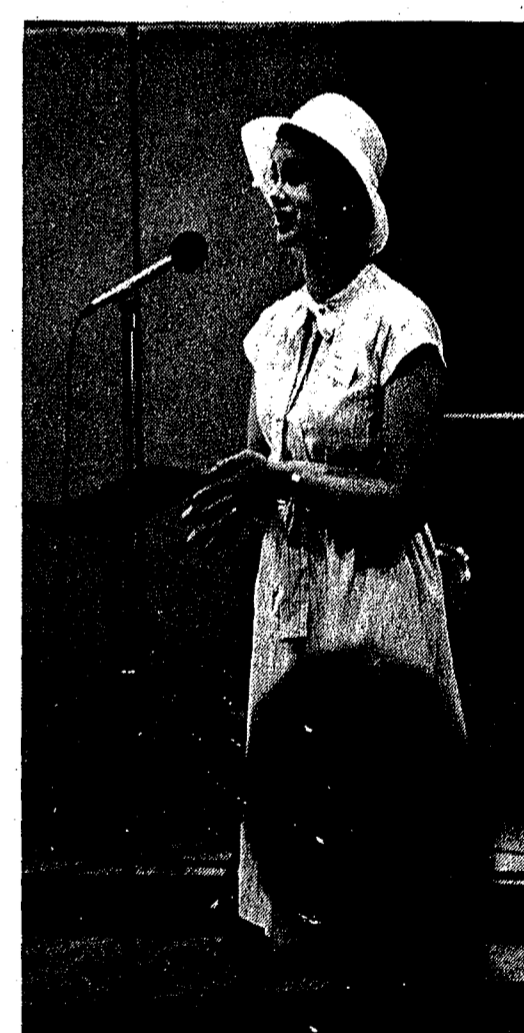
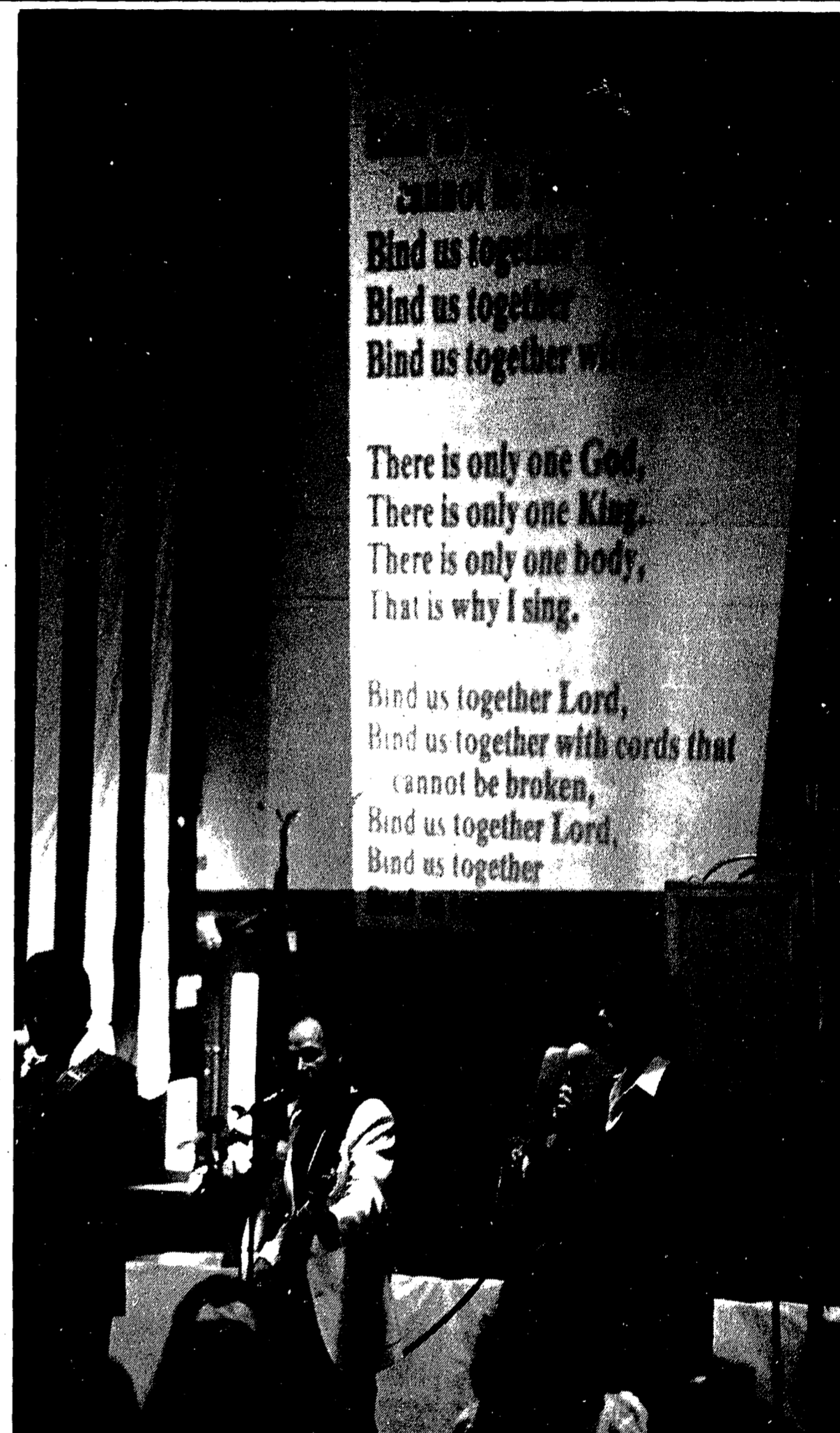
THE SABBATH

OUR 137th YEAR

RECORDER

SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST

SEPTEMBER 1981



**"GROW WITH GOD"
CONFERENCE 1981
SALEM COLLEGE, WV**

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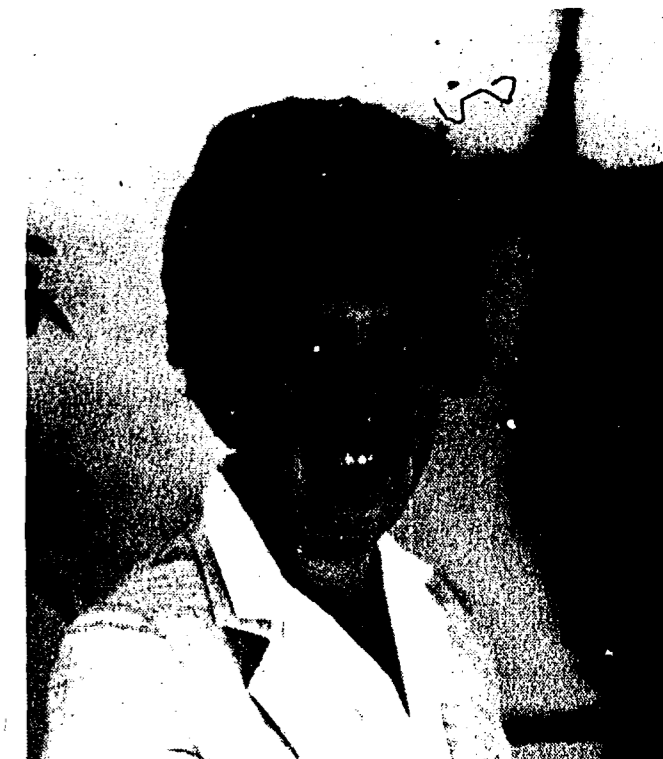
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Appreciation is expressed to Kenneth Burdick and Stephen Rogers who served as Conference photographers.

The Sabbath Recorder



Five daughters of the late Rev. A.J.C. Bond were present at Conference: Ahvagene Clarke, Chalfont, PA; Nellie Parry, Alfred, NY; Mary Lewis, Ashaway, RI; Virginia Spicer, Arlington, VA; and Elizabeth Pearcy, Salem, WV. The other daughter, Wilma Wilson, Charlestown, RI, was not able to be present.



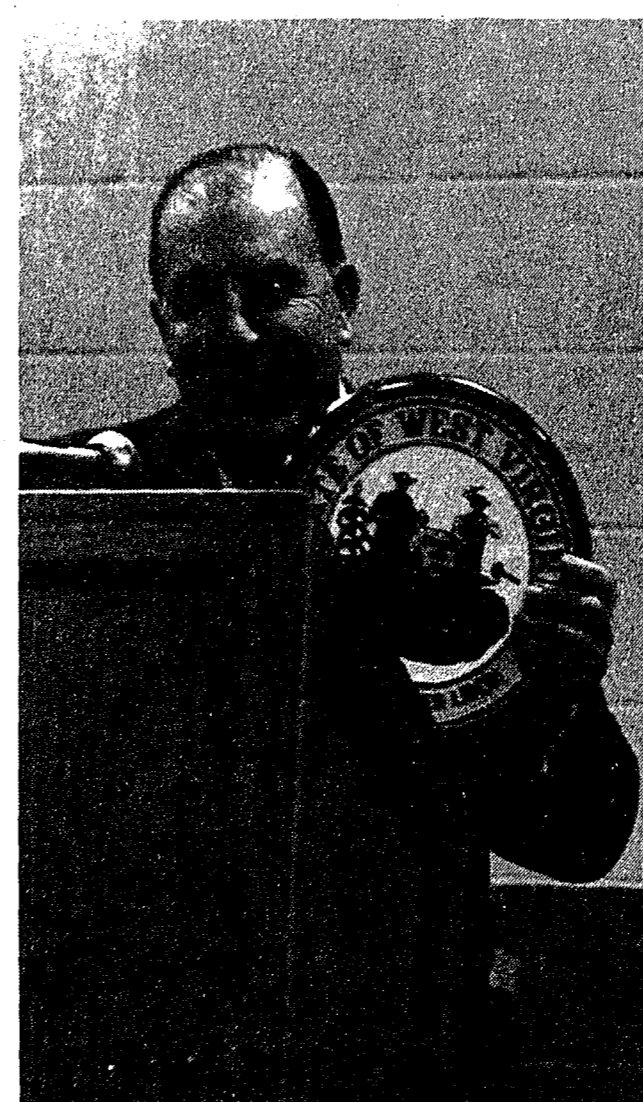
Mayola, Mrs. Garth, Warner, Verona, NY, newly elected member of General Council.

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Senator Robert Byrd of West Virginia was a welcome guest.



Senator Jennings Randolph was presented a plaque by host committee chairman Stanley Allen.

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

The 169th Annual Session of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference convened in Salem College, West Virginia, August 2-8, 1981. There were some 625 registered delegates and visitors during the week with the number growing for the Sabbath service. Conference President Charles H. Graffius' theme "Grow with God" was reflected in the worship services, Bible studies and evening messages.

Three ministers received accreditation: Rev. Kenneth D. Chroniger of the Central Church in Maryland, Rev. Steven P. Crouch of the Little Genesee, NY, and Hebron, PA, Churches, and the Rev. Jack Hays of Sunshine Mountain in Mississippi.

The General Conference Bylaws were changed to read: "The name of this corporation shall be the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference, USA and Canada."

Related to this amendment was the recognition of the First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, as a member of the Conference.

Conference Statement on Abortion: "We believe that human life begins at conception and is precious and sacred. The Seventh Day Baptist General Conference deplores and strongly disapproves our society's gross disregard for the sanctity of human life as reflected in current statistics on abortion and in today's virtually unrestricted policy of abortion on demand.

"The Seventh Day Baptist General Conference recommends that individuals and churches promote legislation and public policies that would reverse this alarming trend, as well as policies that would discourage the immorality, ignorance, and lack of restraint that produce problem

Continued . . .

Representatives of the Toronto Church were welcomed into the Conference.



Mrs. Elisabeth Schmid and Mrs. Anna Pfeiffer accepting the special award from the Women's Board.



GROW WITH GOD

pregnancies.

"We believe that it is our responsibility as churches, and as individual Seventh Day Baptists, to set an example to our society by living according to, and teaching, Biblical standards of morality, responsibility, and respect for human life."

A roll call vote of the churches was conducted on this statement and the statement passed with the following vote: Yes - 343, No - 215; Abstain - 42; No Response - 31.

The new members elected to the General Council are K. D. Hurley, President-Elect, of Salem, WV, and Mrs. Garth (Mayola) Warner of Verona, NY.

Seventh Day Baptists are now making plans for the 170th Annual Session which will meet August 8-14, 1982 at the University of Redlands, Redlands, California.

Special recognition was given to several: Dr. Melvin Nida for his years of service on the Council on Ministry; Rev. Herbert E. Saunders for his service as Dean of the Center on Ministry; Rev.

and Mrs. Francis Saunders for their service to the Southeastern Association; Mr. and Mrs. Eldred Batson of Parkersburg, WV, for attendance at their 51st consecutive General Conference; Karl Stillman for his years of service to the Missionary Society; Mrs. Lloyd (Oma) Seager, the Women's Society Robe of Achievement; the ladies of the German SDB Church in Irvington, NJ, for their service to others; and the Washington, DC, church for the greatest percentage growth during the past year—26%.

Both of the United State Senators of West Virginia were present for speeches before the Conference. Senator Jennings Randolph, a Seventh Day Baptist, spoke words of greeting on Sunday evening and later returned to attend the ecumenical dinner. Senator Robert Byrd, a Missionary Baptist, spoke on Friday afternoon.

Conference President Dorothy Parrott of Battle Creek, MI, spoke to the Conference on the night after the Sabbath. The theme for the year 1981-82 will be "The Ministry of Reconciliation."

The Light Bearers for Christ will

become an affiliate of the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society. This announcement was made at Conference. The Missionary Society will give guidance to the musical ministry through a committee working with the Home Missions and Evangelism committee.

On Sabbath at Conference it was announced that the Sabbath School Missions Offering was \$562.16. The amount given to Our World Mission was \$26,694.19 with some churches still to report. Also the fund for the new Seventh Day Baptist International Center in Janesville, WI, was reported to have \$32,000 in cash and pledges at the end of Conference week.

FUTURE CONFERENCE SITES

1982—University of Redlands, Redlands, CA August 8-14, 1982

1983—Allegheny/Central New York

1984—Southwestern

1985—Eastern

1986—North Central

1987—Mid-Continent

1988—Southeastern

This rotation may be revised by special invitation from churches and/or associations. □



Dorothy Parrott, new Conference President for 1981-82.



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THE NEW PRESIDENT SHARES

BY DOROTHY PARROTT

LET US BEGIN WITH PRAYER

*Lord, what a change within us one short hour
Spent in Thy presence will prevail to make!
What heavy burdens from our bosoms take,
What parched grounds refresh as with a shower!
We kneel, and all around us seems to lower;
We rise, and all the distance and the near,
Stands forth in sunny outline brave and clear;
We, kneel, how weak! we rise, how full of power!
Why, therefore, should we do ourselves this wrong,
Or others, that we are not always strong,
That we are ever overborne with care,
That we should ever weak or heartless be,
Anxious or troubled, when with us in prayer,
And joy and strength and courage are with Thee!*

—Richard Trench

As we begin the 1981-82 Conference year I make the following prayer, taken from July INTERCESSORS, my prayer (and I invite you to make it your prayer, also) as we continue to grow with God, pleasing Him in every way.

Besides the worship experience and the fellowship it is important that we gather together to consider those things we can do more effectively as a conference of churches than we can do in our local congregations.

We need to support and cooperate with the boards and agencies in our mutual concern for missionary work, educational interests, publishing interest, keeping aware of "who we are" and "why" through

the historical perspective and in working together in our social concerns and ecumenical affairs.

It is important that individuals and churches have opportunity for input of ideas as we continue to improve on the ministry Christ gave the church when He said, "Go preach, teach, baptize and make disciples."

The richer blessing, however, comes in the beautiful worship experiences and the fellowship of brothers and sisters who love the Lord and who feel that Sabbath observance is very much a part of our delight in knowing Him. Every year I return home wishing that those who could not come could have shared.

Even though we can't all attend Conference we should remember that **every** member of **every** Seventh Day Baptist Church is a part of the team. In our covenants we pledge our love for and our support for the Kingdom of God.

In the coming year our study and our emphasis will be reconciliation (reunited) with God. We will consider:

1. Deepening our own relationship with Him.
2. Our ministry to others through:
 - a. Ministry to their physical needs.
 - b. Telling them the message of salvation.

Remember— "He hath given you the Ministry of reconciliation."

II Cor. 5:18b NIV □



Those who attended the ecumenical dinner.

New Executive Secretary Thorngate comparing notes with retiring Secretary Hurley.



GROW WITH GOD

TO GENERAL CONFERENCE, AUGUST 1981

BY K.D. HURLEY

STRENGTH IN THE FAITH

"Since you have accepted Christ Jesus as Lord, live in union with him. Keep your roots deep in him, build your lives on him, and become strong in your faith."

1 Colossians 2:6-7 (TEV)

As I come to the end of another specific term of full-time service to the denomination my report inevitably takes on quite personal characteristics.

First I must testify that the past six years have been a time for strengthening my personal faith, thanks to the influence of strong and exemplary colleagues. One of the great joys of serving as Executive and Corresponding Secretary is to work with so many wonderfully dedicated people representing the various boards and agencies, churches and associations.

Second, my wife, Shireen, and I are very mindful of the loving acceptance which has been demonstrated by Christian friends throughout the country and around the world. Our lives have been enriched — and we are very grateful! As we move to a new home in a new location which will serve as a new base for service, we go not only with a sense of fulfillment but with a renewed confidence in the future.

Even the sometimes mundane, routine "chores" of office take on a

special dimension of encouragement as I review the activities of the past year — and years. A "strengthening of the faith" has occurred for Seventh Day Baptists individually and collectively.

Corresponding Secretary

Throughout this Conference year, as always, a considerable volume of correspondence has been handled, including letters written in compliance with actions taken at the 1980 General Conference Session hosted in Denver, Colorado: responses to greetings received from missionaries, from other Seventh Day Baptist Conferences from leaders of other denominations, from a host of individuals and organizations and from the American Bible Society. Also, letters of appreciation were directed to the Denver Church for its special hospitality extended to the General Council members during the pre-Conference meeting as well as to all who attended General Conference; to the Host Committee through its chairmen; to the personnel of Loretto Heights College, where Conference was held, through its president; and to others who supplied equipment, rendered special services, or provided leadership for Interest Committees, associated and pre Conferences, and all who handled the myriad details in running a successful Conference.

Christian greetings were extended to Seventh Day Baptist Conferences and Churches overseas. Messages were sent to our retired ministers and their wives, widows of former ministers and denominational workers, and to our retired and former missionaries. Those who could not attend Conference were sent copies of the 1980 HIGHLIGHTS. Boards and agencies were made aware of Conference actions relation to their respective areas of endeavor. Elected officers and committee chairpersons were notified and asked to contact all members and activate their committees.

Seven hundred and fifty copies of the 1980 YEARBOOK, capably edited by Ethel Dickinson, were published and distributed as soon as available in May in response to orders received from churches and individuals; to executives of other Baptist denominations; and to a number of libraries, including the Library of Congress, and to seminaries where Seventh Day Baptist students are enrolled.

The regular flow of correspondence has been heavy week by week. But it is gratifying to note that an increasing number of inquiries about Seventh Day Baptists are coming from individuals of diverse backgrounds and from widespread places in the United States as well as other countries. In some cases, those who are already Sabbath-keepers are searching for new church homes more commensurate with their convictions and



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beliefs. Several have asked for membership — in absentia — in our churches. A good many, with no current church affiliation of any kind, are seeking information on how to start churches in their areas. In one case, at least, a whole church has turned from Sunday-keeping to Sabbath-keeping.

The growth trend is exciting. It provides an encouraging dimension to our Decade of Discipleship activities and the goal to double in the decade. But a couple of imperatives become evident:

1. To expand our promotional efforts through radio broadcasts, newspaper articles, and advertising in national magazines; and, as soon as possible, to start the use of TV in major ways to publicize the important services we have to offer.
2. To initiate new procedures in "church planting" and to provide greater assistance for people who are questing to know and do God's will in matters of church affiliation.

We need to capitalize on our new potential for service in Christ's name and for His sake.

Executive Secretary

Now, as I put on my Executive Secretary's hat for a moment, let me emphasize again my sense of excitement about the future for our denomination.

My article in the January *Sabbath Recorder* suggested that with the new year our denomination was taking on a new look — in attitudes and activities related to growth. I quoted Michael Harper's observation, from his book *Let My People Grow*, that "if something is growing, it's alive... There are some other evidences of life, but growth is the most important and reliable one." Seventh Day Baptists are alive and growing. Praise the Lord!

In June, under the heading of "On the Right Road," my *Recorder* article traced the development since the "cross-roads" decision we made a number of years ago to follow the pathway of discipleship. I expressed the confident belief that "we are now on the way to a new destination of achievement for Christ, determined not to turn off the main highway or make an unnecessary 'rest stop,' no matter how attractive and comfortable the 'worldy roadside plazas' may appear."

Last month my published statement reviewed, with satisfaction, the truly cooperative strategy that is evolving out of the work of the General Council. I summarized the accomplishments of the past several years and outlined the thoughtfully and prayerfully conceived recommendations now being made to this Conference. I concluded, with sincere optimism, that the representational concept of planning and coordinating through the General Council is working; that it provides another reason for enthusiasm as we face the challenges of the future;

and that God has been strengthening us while He has stretched us.

My *Sabbath Recorder* statements, in their entirety, are really a part of my report. Their contents are in my mind as I make the following observations:

- A. There is a new surge of energy developing among Seventh Day Baptists. Commitment to Growth and Decision to Discipleship have both contributed to the inauguration of a decade in which we are determined to double in church membership and spiritual effectiveness. Seventh Day Baptist identify with other Baptists when it is said:

"Baptists are not content just to celebrate history. They are making history for the Kingdom of God — and doing so because their dreams are inspired by the mercies of God."

My confidence, as well as my primary personal reservation, is expressed in a letter which recently came to my desk from a fellow Seventh Day Baptist: "I feel more strongly than ever," the respondent said, "that the historic SDB Church has the message for the world today, but that we contemporary Seventh Day Baptists may lack the commitment to the principle and

(Continued on page 28)



K.D. Hurley's "girls" singing for him in the special program: Terry Van Horn, Kathy Dixon, Penny Thorngate, Shireen Hurley and Becky Martin.



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TRIBUTE TO K. DUANE HURLEY

BY DOROTHY UPTON DAVIS

Were I as a citizen of Salem, West Virginia, to say that Duane Hurley is a person who lights a candle rather than curse the darkness, the measure of the man would fall short. A few times in a lifetime one meets a human being who is superior to a candle lighter in blackness. This individual is so filled with the philosophy of "Let your light so shine" that he does not see the darkness. I do not imply that not seeing darkness means the man is impractical, a Pollyanna. Often such a man is pragmatic, sometimes even hard-headed. But he knows that the dire forecasts of the great specialists are faulty, and that events and trends often reverse themselves. He knows that what looks to be a hopeless youth in a hopeless Galilee can be a saviour. This man simply ignores the ever-present darkness and becomes a midday sun that lets light dispel the blackness in the farthest corners.

Not seeing the darkness meant that Duane Hurley could head a college of a few hundred students and stretch its facilities and staff, through faith and hard work, to handle an enrollment

which would more than double. Not seeing darkness meant he could see the light of the strength of union when other presidents of small colleges tried to win academic accreditation by lighting candles. Hurley said, "Rather let us join together and help one another win academic excellence." And his light for years was the beacon to guide this union into a strengthened position for all the colleges.

One clue to identifying excellence is the attention given to detail. Duane Hurley executes detail with perfection. He skips nothing. I once found him framing letters as he rode in the back seat of his automobile during the twenty minutes he traveled from a speaking engagement to his home. One time when he looked very tired I asked a faculty member how Hurley would avoid a breakdown if he were to continue his eighteen-hour-a-day schedule. In reply I heard: "He will not break; he has strength few possess; his religious faith will carry him safely through."

As the sun penetrates the tiniest crevice, Duane Hurley and his wife shone light into

what a lesser man would call the insignificant in the community where they lived. I would hear an adolescent an hour before an event say, "Telephone Mrs. Hurley and ask her to play the piano." Soon a smiling Shireen would walk through the door and take her place at the piano. Among the handful of school patrons at a PTA meeting would be Duane Hurley volunteering to help those staging an event for the good of the public school. Neither Duane nor Shireen have the word "No" in their vocabularies. And they extended their influence by letting their four wholesome, lovely daughters grow up with the young people in our town.

When I read an account of Thomas Jefferson's optimism in a biography currently being reviewed, I thought of Duane Hurley. To the end Jefferson was confident that the world would be filled with American-style democracies. "He underestimated the evil in unregenerate man" said his biographer, but who can "condemn Jefferson for so noble, so American a fault." In the pessimistic 1980's the world needs legions like Jefferson who underestimate the evil in

(Continued on page 27)

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL REPORT

The General Council, meeting in Salem, West Virginia, July 29-31, 1981, has reviewed reports, programs and the united budget proposal to be presented to the General Conference meeting at Salem College, August 2-8, 1981. In our commitment to the work of the Kingdom of God we feel God is blessing us as we continue to grow with Him. We are seeing evidences of growth, not only in increased numbers and new churches but also in a dramatic growth in our perception of how to be more effective disciples and in our commitment to be obedient to His will.

In this year, the second in the Decade of Discipleship, we can see the advantages of the efforts and programs of the entire Conference being coordinated by the Coordinating Leadership Team (CLT). The Executive Secretary of the General Conference and the executive (or other representative) of each board meet once a month to plan how, through cooperative effort, they can best meet the needs of the churches in the denomination. By making use of their suggested programs and by alerting the boards and agencies of our needs and concerns through the CLT we will be better

equipped to fulfill our role in the ministry God has for Seventh Day Baptists.

May the Holy Spirit fill us with a burning desire and a determination to be responsible, effective witnesses to our love for our Lord.

Decade of Discipleship

We have completed the first year with its emphasis on Decision to Disciple. Many people have testified to their increased spiritual growth because of their participation in this movement. We urge others to be involved.

The remaining nine years are divided into three three-year segments with the emphases of nurture, extension and ministry repeated each cycle. This year's emphasis on nurture is being led by the Board of Christian Education and the Council on Ministry.

Beginning January, 1982, the Year of Extension will be under the guidance of the Missionary Society and the Director of Evangelism and Church Extension. Cooperation with these leaders will help us reach a hurting world with the message of the salvation that a loving God offers

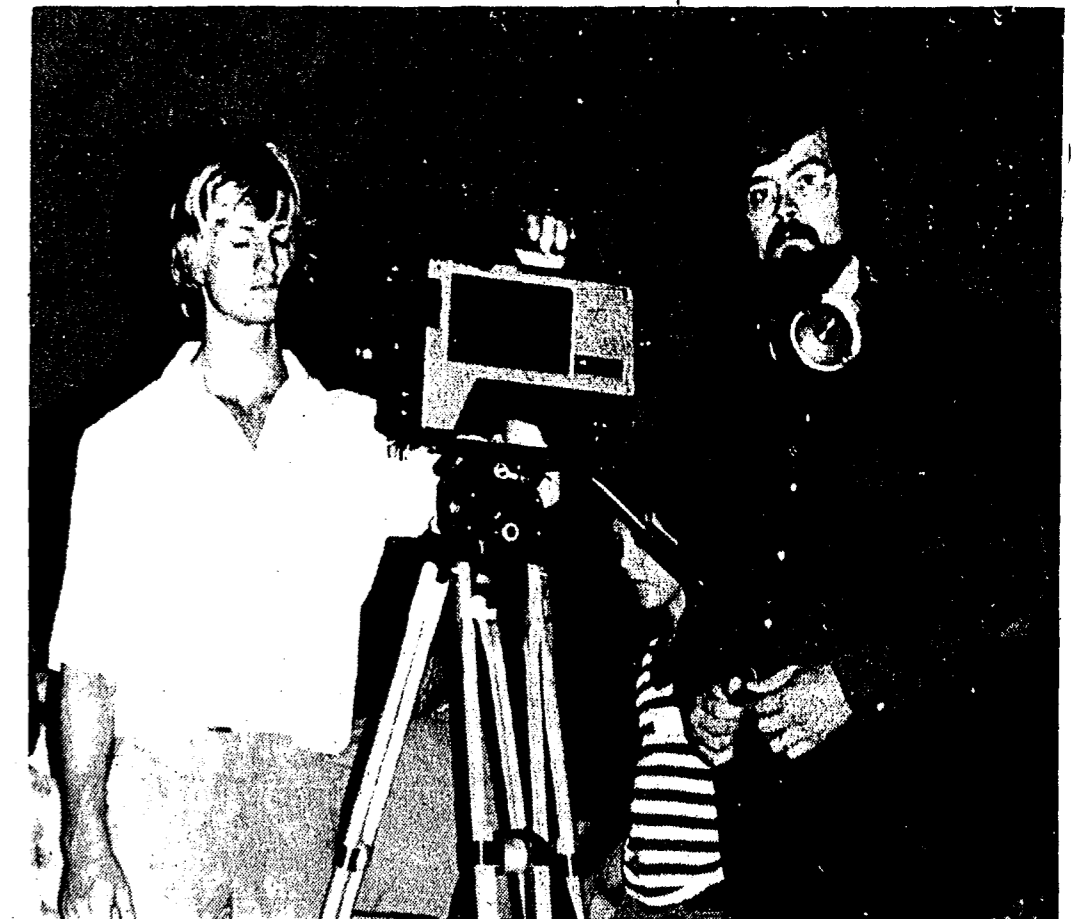
to all. At a time when calls are coming for help in establishing churches in new areas we need to be alert to innovative ways to use all our resources to "plant" new churches so as to reach more people for Christ.

Dr. K. Duane Hurley

General Council expresses its appreciation for the capable service of K. Duane Hurley as he has worked for his Lord and for the Seventh Day Baptist denomination as Executive Secretary the past six years (1975-1981). His ministry, carried out with dedication and commitment to the glory of God, has been a blessing to us. This has been a period of many suggested changes in our denominational structure, some of which were implemented. His expertise, patience, and zeal in doing the Lord's work has been of inestimable value as he has served us in this capacity.

We offer our heartfelt thanks for a job that has been done extremely well. We pray that he will find satisfaction and joy as he continues to serve his Lord in his retirement.

Continued...



GROW WITH GOD

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Albyn Mackintosh (1909-1981)

Albyn Mackintosh was a respected man, both in his chosen profession as an engineer and teacher and as a Christian. He was a man who knew his subject, whether concrete masonry or the Bible, both of which he taught around the world.

Albyn Mackintosh was unselfish with his time and talents, sharing the special knowledge he had with others and serving both his church and his denomination. He served Seventh Day Baptists as a member of the Commission and, in his last days, as chairman of the Committee on Faith and Order. Two projects in which Albyn Mackintosh was actively involved were assisting in the building of churches and the development of the booklet **Seventh Day Baptist Distinctives**.

Albyn Mackintosh was a confident man, whose faith could be summed up in the scripture, "I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day." (II Tim. 1:12) Let us all praise God and thank Him for the life and testimony of Albyn Mackintosh.

Philadelphia Project

General Council notes with favor the initiation of the Philadelphia Project to establish a new church in that area. A committee of representatives from the New Jersey churches in cooperation with the Missionary Society has been active in this work. Janet Thorngate serves as chairman of this committee. The first public meeting was held May 23, 1981. It has been decided that for the time being the meetings will be Bible Studies in the home of Greg and Janis Holloway rather than more formal public services.

The Sabbath Recorder

The General Council recommended to the American Sabbath Tract Society that a pilot project be undertaken in 1982 to distribute **The Sabbath Recorder** free to each Seventh Day Baptist family, and that voluntary contributions be encouraged to cover the cost of printing and distribution. We commend the American Sabbath Tract Society for implementing this project at their meeting, July 19, 1981.

Yearbook

The General Council recommended that the General Con-

ference office and the American Sabbath Tract Society implement a pilot project to demonstrate the feasibility of publishing the **Seventh Day Baptist Yearbook** in looseleaf form. We commend the American Sabbath Tract Society for their action, July 19, 1981, voting to implement this proposal.

Conference reports of boards and agencies are being published in looseleaf form to be distributed to Conference delegates and to be placed in three-ringed notebooks to be made available to delegates. The innovative and creative way of having Conference materials and **Yearbook** information in this ringed binder is a positive way of cutting costs and improving our stewardship. We encourage all delegates to use and maintain this useful tool.

1982 Budget

In considering budgets in these times of severe inflation it is a temptation to look at an increased budget in terms of the difficult time we have had in raising the budget in the past and feel less than optimistic. There is another way of looking at budgets, however. The Lord has work for Seventh Day Baptists to do. Not only must we tell the message of salvation, but is is our respon-

sibility and privilege to witness to our belief that God has commanded us to keep His Holy Day. The Conference has been challenged these past few years by Commitment to Growth and Decision to Discipleship. There is a new excitement throughout our churches as we continue to build on the work already accomplished over the past 300 years. We need only to read Acts and the letters to the New Testament churches to realize that Christ's church has always known what it is to have "growing pains."

New ways of accomplishing our goals in doing the Lord's work require an adjustment in our thinking. The need for qualified, gifted leaders mandates that they be adequately compensated, reminding us that "the workman is worthy of his hire."

The commission was to make disciples by going, preaching, teaching and baptizing. He promised that He would not give us a task too difficult to do, but He did not promise it would always be easy. Let us go forward, confident in His strength, believing we can support financially those programs proposed by the committees and boards we have chosen to lead us in accomplishing our ministry in the work of the Kingdom. □

September 1981

CONVICTIONS ABOUT WHAT THE ENEMY IS DOING

BY REV. S. KENNETH DAVIS

BATTLE CREEK, MI

BIBLE STUDY ON II TIMOTHY 3:1-4

We are about to look at one of the most terrible and depressing pictures in Scripture about what a society ruled by Satan without God is like, with all the miserable characteristics of Satanic influence set out in a ghastly negative series. In fact, in the Greek all but one of the immoralities listed is expressed with a negative prefix. The only thing positive that could be said about the passage is that it is positively negative. I can envision people in Paul's day saying the world could NEVER come to **that!** But I expect the average remark today would simply be: "It sounds like Paul has been watching too much television" or "So that's where they get the plots for **Soap** and **Dallas**."

And if the latter is your reaction, you know to whom he was talking, right?

If you are feeling brave enough to enter the devil's workshop, let us see what can be gained from a study of this passage. If the Holy Spirit inspired Paul to put it there, then He can inspire us to learn from it, if nothing more

than recognizing that being forewarned is to be forearmed.

"But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God . . ."

II Timothy 3:1-4 NIV

How is that for a catalog of sins? Does it or does it not sound like a good night on TV?

Increasingly we hear references to "the last days" mentioned in Scripture. What, actually, did Paul mean when he was talking about these things happening in the last days? The early church inherited from Judaism the concept of dividing time into THIS PRESENT AGE and the AGE TO COME. This present age was conceived of as being evil, whereas the age to

Continued . . .



Linda Van Horn Camenga shares with Conference her plans for the children's page.



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come would be one in which God's perfect reign would take place. And in between the two there would be the awful "day of the Lord," a day when God would personally intervene cataclysmically and shatter the world in order to remake it. And that "day of the Lord" would be preceded by a horrible time of terror when all of the enemies, evil power would be pitted against God in one final assault, and the earth would be shaken—morally with all kinds of corruption, and physically with violent storms, earthquakes, fires, etc.

While the New Testament writers thought in terms of this occurring at the end of the present age, they also envisioned that they were entering that age. So the author of Hebrews speaks of "these last days" and here in II Timothy 3, when we get down to the sixth verse, we notice that it changes from FUTURE tense to PRESENT tense. It is also interesting to note that, while Paul speaks here in the future tense, this catalog is very similar to one in His letter to the Romans that is in the present tense.

So it may be concluded, first of all, that at least the seeds of all these sins were already present

in the time of Paul, and, secondly, that the New Testament writers believed themselves to be living at least on the edge of the last days, expecting the imminent return of Christ. It is interesting to note, too, that many times in the intervening centuries the church has decried its current generation for being guilty of this list of sins.

Excuses For Sin

If they were living in the last days then, we are more so, both in chronology and in the degree, intensity and frequency of violations under the categories in our Scriptural catalog of sins. And of possibly greater significance is the way Satan allows us in our age to justify the sins. Here is a check list of excuses for the sins listed in II Timothy 3:1-4. Check yourself on the ones you use and give Satan ten points for each one.

"It's not doing anybody any harm and I like it."
"Aw, the insurance company has lots of money. It's not as if I were stealing it."
"But you don't know my parents. They're impossible!"
"I'm not as bad as other people."
"Everybody's doing it."

"I'm only doing it for his own good, to teach him a thing or two."
"Hey, the Lord helps those who help themselves."
"If I don't look out for numero uno, who's going to?"
"We're two consenting adults. It's nobody else's business."
"Oh, just WATCHING that stuff can't hurt you."

All these convenient excuses (and usually all they are is excuses) were manufactured in the devil's workshop. How did you grade him? He does good work, doesn't he?

And, finally, Satan has managed to get a hold on intellectualism and twist it around. Many of the schools and universities started by Christians to train men for the ministry, have now taken an unspoken but no less official stance against religious faith. It is sophisticated and intellectual to embrace the godless psychology of Freud and the godless science of Darwin. And anti-Biblical education is poisoning and leavening the whole lump. So with a denial of the basis for traditional standards of morality, everything is reduced to situation ethics with a great deal more attention to the situation than to ethics. With no

faith, there is no purpose or meaning in life. Without a value system or meaning the whole world becomes mad, absurd, stupid. And what is left for life, then, except artificial "highs" created by stimuli alluded to in Paul's list of sins.

Perilous or Troublesome Times

The King James version calls these last times "perilous." That word is also translated variously "hard times," "troublesome times," "times of stress" and "dangerous times." Perhaps the most common translation is "difficult times" which most often is the sense in which the word is used, but the Greek word has some deeper connotations by its usage in some other instances. When Jesus met the demoniacs among the tombs that word was used to describe them, meaning that they were vicious and dangerous. Plutarch uses that word to describe an ugly, festering wound. And astrologers used it to describe the conditions when heavenly bodies came in conjunction with each other portending of unusual physical and psychical disturbances on earth.

Paul puts his pen on the basic cause of it right from the

start—the basic sin of all sins, "lovers of their own selves." This is another fascinating tactic of Satan. He takes everything that is good and turns it into evil. When God completed His world, He looked at it and saw that everything was good—people, food, companionship, sex, wine. You name it, it was good. But that was before Satan and Adam got together and corrupted it. And so it is with "lovers of self."

There is a self-love which is a very natural and very useful, indeed, an essential principle. Preservation of the species demands it. "No man ever hated his own flesh." Without healthy self-love a person would neither preserve nor improve himself. It is our love of self that is the criterion for loving our neighbor. Love of neighbor is predicated on healthy self-love. The more we love ourselves, the more our light shines out to those who need to be loved, just as the brighter the sun shines, the more warmth and light it gives. Only a person with a good feeling about himself is free to stoop down to help. A person without a healthy self-image would be afraid of degrading himself by stooping in order to lift another. There is a good self-love.

But that same self-love, when it becomes self-centered is the fundamental basic sin. Adam sinned because he wanted to advance himself more than he wanted to be obedient. And "self" has reigned in the heart of every human being since born into the world. By nature we are self-centered. If you have trouble with that thought, look at any baby whose will is thwarted at that point that he discovers that his will is not law. In laboratory tests it has been shown that rats will overcome almost any obstacle just to have their pleasure centers electrically stimulated. Personal gratification is a consuming passion, the summum bonum. Satan has found the big "I" and knows how vulnerable that big "I" is.

Love of Self

Short of being born again, receiving a new nature and the Holy Spirit, and by the power of the Spirit putting Christ on the throne of one's life, Satan has a field day with self-love in an individual.

All of these other sins are derivatives of self-love. Notice that the list ends where it began and clarifies the point at which self-love goes wrong. The last clause in verse four says, "Lovers of self

Continued...

CONFERENCE 1981

more than lovers of God." They place their own wishes at the very center of their lives and "no man can serve two masters." In essence they worship themselves and their pleasures rather than God. The net result is that God abandons them to the atrocious behavior there described.

One evidence of unhealthy love of self is love of money, or as the King James Version translates it, covetousness. Love of his riches kept the rich young ruler out of heaven, at least by inference, because it was right after the rich man turned away that Jesus commented that it was easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter heaven. Again, I have long been impressed that in the parable of Lazarus and Dives, Dives did not do anything wrong to land in Hell. He just did not do anything. He was too wrapped up in his own wealth and business affairs even to notice Lazarus, much less open his heart to him. It is possible to hold a fifty-cent piece close enough to your eye to block out the whole world. And some call that stewardship.

Notice how many of the sins listed find expression through the tongue—boasters, proud, blasphemers, false accusers, traitors, high-minded. It was the Lord who said, "Out of the abundance of the heart doth the mouth speak." Whatever is in the warehouse soon appears in the shop. The tongue of a person tells you in pretty short order what is in his heart.

"Disobedient to parents," going against the authority of their fathers has throughout history been recognized as the source of the breakdown of society. Rebellion against parents is soon translated into disrespect for all authority and ultimately criminal lawlessness. At no time before in history have children been taught about their "rights" before learning responsibility. At no time in a democracy have children been

taught to report their parents for spanking them so that punitive action or threat of punitive action can be brought against the parents for fulfilling their God-given role.

Time does not permit an in depth look at each of the sins. It is worth noting that all of them are in greater evidence today than ever before. The message is: watch out for them, don't let them sneak up on you unaware, don't be discouraged by them or the times, be prepared.

In the final analysis, sick love of self is not nearly so dangerous to the victims of ill treatment as it is to the person who has it, the self-lover himself, for he is building a trap for himself from which someday he will not be able to extricate himself.

Back home we have a sparrow trap in our back yard. The county Health Department is monitoring the spread of disease by testing the blood of sparrows which are also susceptible to the same disease. It is interesting to watch the sparrows. I have suggested that we ought to award them pins when the same sparrow has given a total of one CC of blood. One reason we do not do that is that the sparrows are not really volunteers for the program. The way they end up in the trap is that the way into it is paved with cracked corn. And the sparrow is so intent on filling his stomach that he does not even notice that the wire mesh he is going through is so narrow that, once inside, he is not going to be able to figure out how to get back. He just pecks and runs right in without thinking. The Apostle Paul warned us of these sins so we would see that Satan was trying to ensnare us and knowing that we would studiously make a point of staying out of the cage—not even getting close. It is either wrong thinking or not thinking that entraps us.

I would like to suggest two positive approaches we can take to keep from being lured by the

enemy. First, we need to accept, fix our minds on and never forget to seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, knowing that there can be no such thing as true happiness and peace and joy and fullness of life apart from love of God with all our heart, mind and strength. The second half of the Great Commandment is love of our neighbor.

Second, never forget that man is made for eternity, and not just for this life. No happiness can be true or solid that is not as permanent as we are. Anything that does not consider the future is an unworthy aim. □

—This Bible study was presented on Tuesday at Conference in Salem, WV

FOUR KEYS FOR CHURCH GROWTH

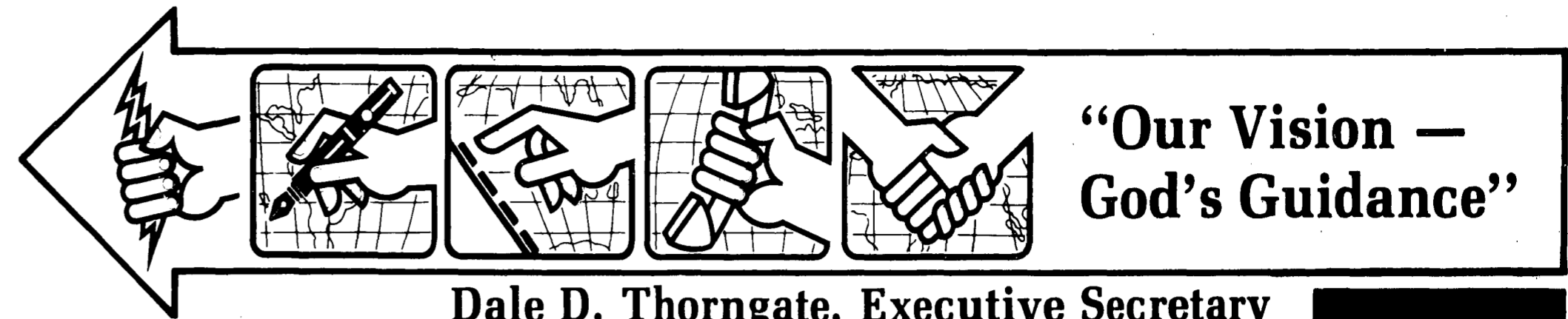
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times in our personal spiritual lives and in our spiritual life as a church. The results were obvious to the early church as they saw the miracles of God performed, as they were moved to take care of one another and to witness to the non-believers on a daily basis. And God was faithful in adding to their numbers daily. I believe God wants to add to our numbers daily too. □

TEACHER'S MINI LAB

(Continued from p. 18)

6. *Anticipate needing more learning activities than can be used. (Nothing is so ruinous as extra time at end of session with nothing to do.)*
7. *Remember you are teaching children, not lesson material. Let each child work at his own pace and level; expecting the best work the student is capable of producing. □*



Dale D. Thorngate, Executive Secretary

God is calling a unique group of people to a new vision. It seems obvious that throughout the world Seventh Day Baptists are being called to share his message of love, peace, and freedom in a new and distinctive way to people who have not heard the "good news" shared in a Sabbath context.

As I write I am in an airplane some 42,000 feet above the ground. The perspective of the vastness of God's land is awesome. Here it seems easier to envision God's people in new areas across the country establishing new churches and making new disciples in Christ's name.

Why is vision so essential to the success of our mission? Vision has been defined as a supernatural presentation to the mind, a way of seeing or perceiving, an usual discernment or foresight. Vision is important to any creative venture. **Without vision of what can ultimately be achieved there is no purpose, no goal to move toward, and no sense of achievement when an activity is finished.**

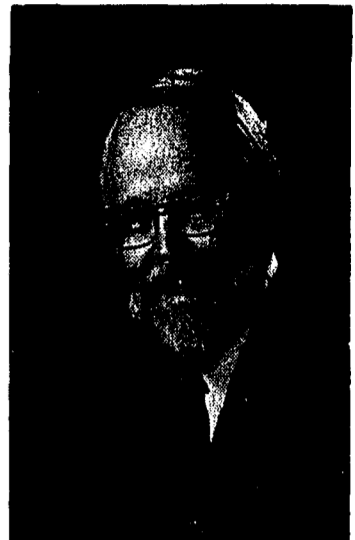
God Gets Our Attention

Throughout the Bible God revealed his directions to his people by visions. Samuel heard God's call through a vision. God's redeeming work was revealed to Isaiah through a vision: "Before you were born I chose you." Jeremiah knew that God had called him to be his servant through a vision.

In the New Testament God revealed his will through visions to the leaders of the people who had accepted Christ as their savior. On the day of Pentecost Peter's knowledge of the vision of the prophet Joel was given new insight by the filling of the Holy Spirit. To Joel God's redeeming love was available to the Israelites without sex, age, or socio-economic discrimination. Peter's new ability to perceive revealed that salvation through Christ was available to all people. Now there was no racial or national discrimination either. Peter's vision of the blanket with the animals in it, both clean and unclean, emphasized the same broad scope of mission.

To the apostle Paul God came in a vision as the man from Macedonia asking him to "come over and help us." Paul had been trying to leave Troas to go where he wanted to go. But the Holy Spirit revealed through this vision that God's message was to be shared with a new people.

The first in a series on "Five Elements of Success": Vision, Communication, Time, Commitment (Financial), and Leadership.



What Is Our Vision?

Is this not also the vision for Seventh Day Baptists? God calls us to a unique work. We are to take the good news of his love to new people. In cities and towns across our land they are calling "Come and help us."

Where I come from in Ohio, besides a new church in Columbus there is new outreach in the Mt. Vernon area. The church is working with a young Adventist friend to bring God's message of salvation by grace to new people.

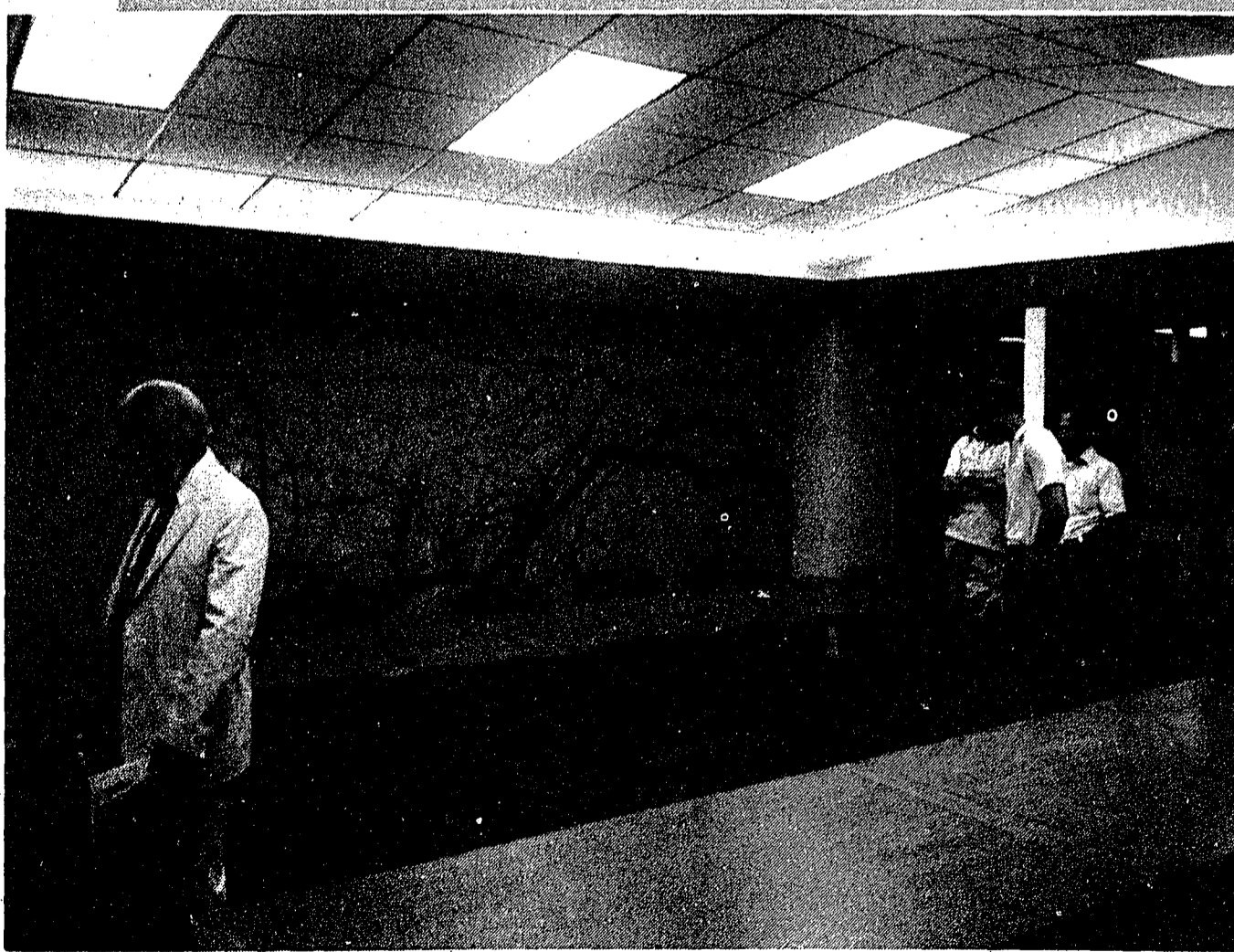
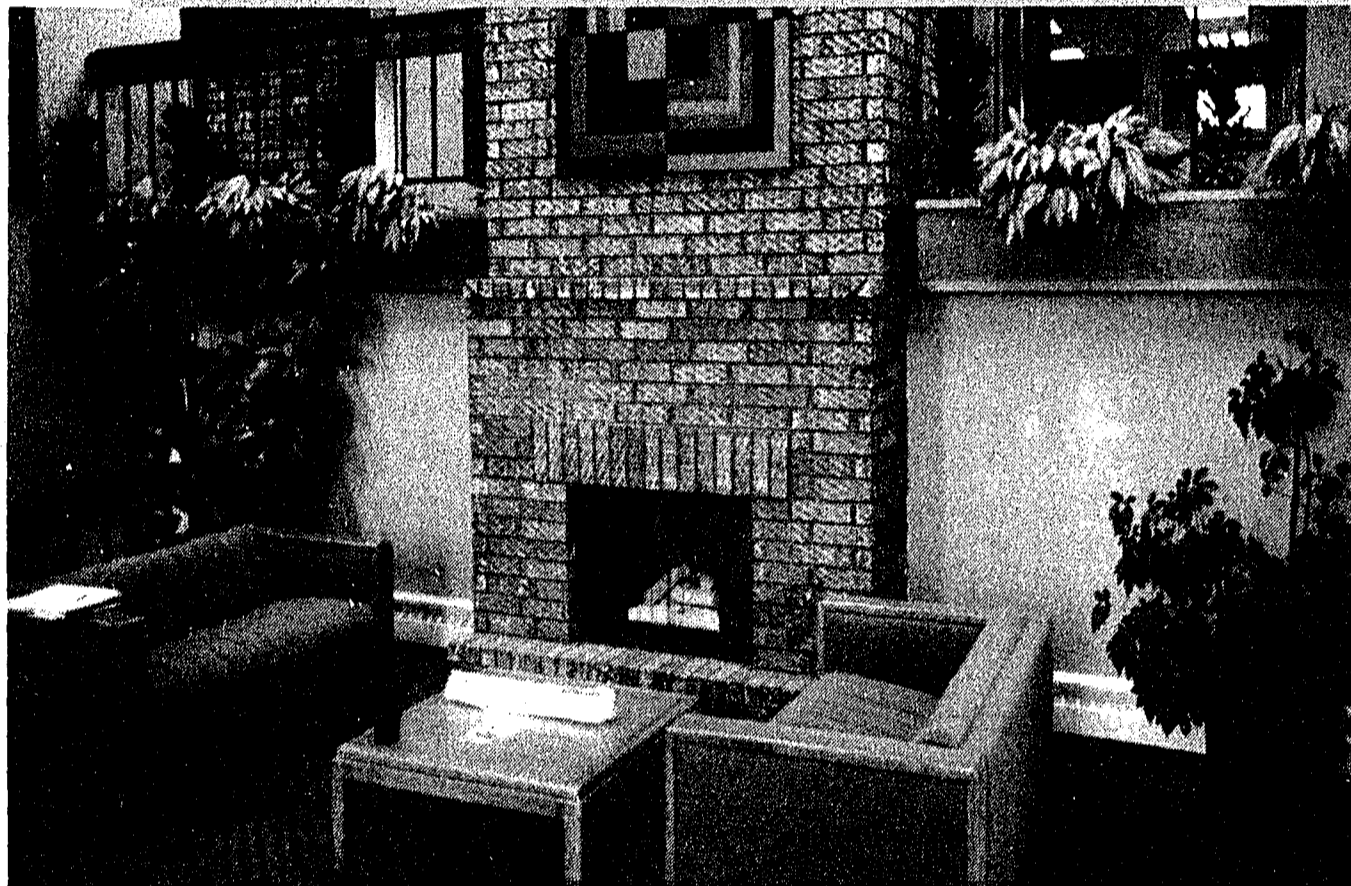
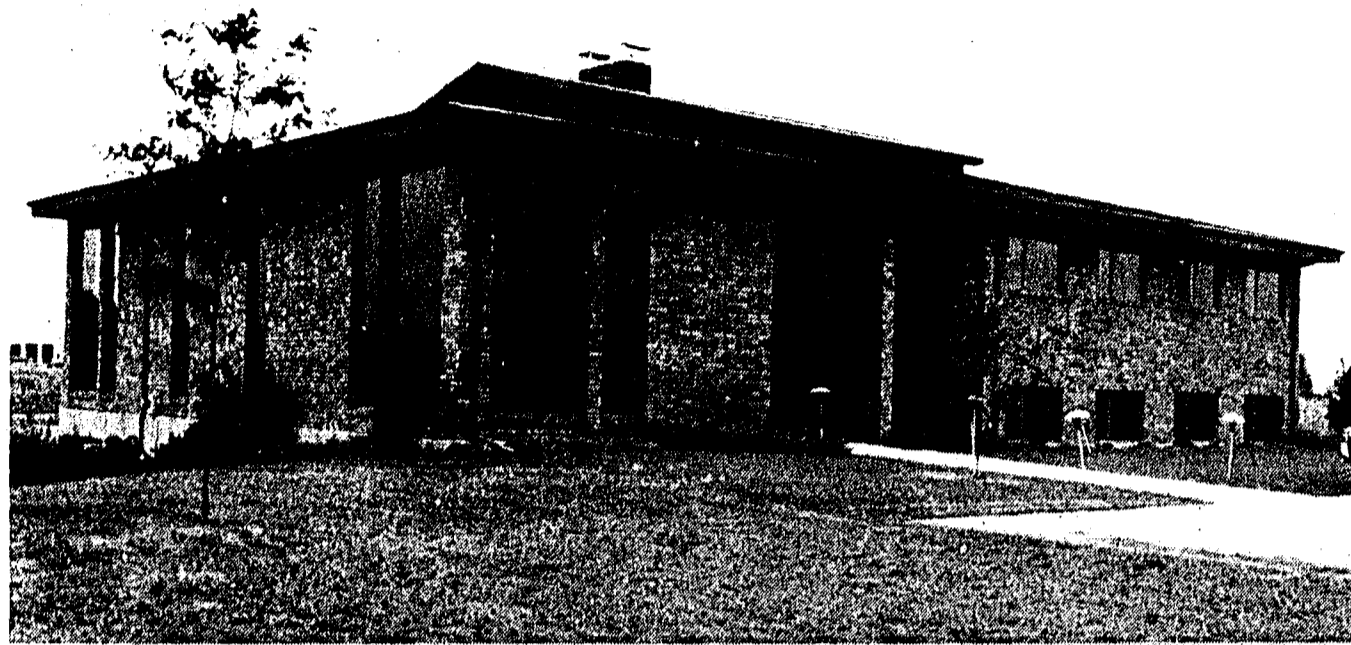
In the southeast new groups are springing up: In Eastern Tennessee and the Carolinas under the leadership of Pastor John Camenga. In Atlanta where the fellowship has called Pastor Bill Shobe to help them build a new church. In western Tennessee where the Lord is building a dynamic, exciting church under the leadership of Pastor Bill Shoffner. Early this spring after a visit by our Conference President, an active church in Arlington, Tennessee, that had already accepted the Sabbath truth became aware that there were other Sabbathkeeping baptists and asked for membership in our General Conference.

On the Pacific coast the Lord has given his vision for new groups in San Diego, California; Pacific and Spokane, Washington; and in western Oregon. In Wisconsin the Milton church has placed an experienced pastor on the field — his sole responsibility to make new contacts and nurture new small groups.

These people of God across our nation have caught the vision for a dynamic and growing faith: a belief in God's promise of freedom, peace of mind, and a wholeness in relationship to Him through his son Jesus Christ. That is our purpose as Christians. That

(Continued on page 19)

JANESVILLE, WISCONSIN TO BE NEW SITE FOR DENOMINATIONAL CENTER



During the last year the General Council requested that churches send, for evaluation, their suggestions for sites for relocation of the Plainfield offices of the denomination. This move would affect only the offices and activities currently located at the present building in Plainfield, NJ. However, the new facility should provide for the possibility of housing other board or agency offices when that seems advisable some time in the future.

Criteria for evaluation by the General Council included: public transportation; educational facilities (eg: libraries, seminaries, public schools, colleges); availability of a growing, forward-looking Seventh Day Baptist Church; health care facilities; cost of living for employees; construction costs; available resources; possibility for future development; growth area, cultural advantages and recreational facilities.

Several attractive proposals were received by the General Council. They considered proposals for sites in Denver, Colorado; Battle Creek, Michigan; Memphis, Tennessee; Columbus, Ohio; Nashville, Tennessee; Milton-Janesville, Wisconsin; and other areas.

The General Council made the following recommendation to Conference which, following considerable debate, was voted on by the delegates with a secret ballot. "That the offices of the General Conference and the Boards and Agencies located at Plainfield, NJ, be moved to the Janesville,

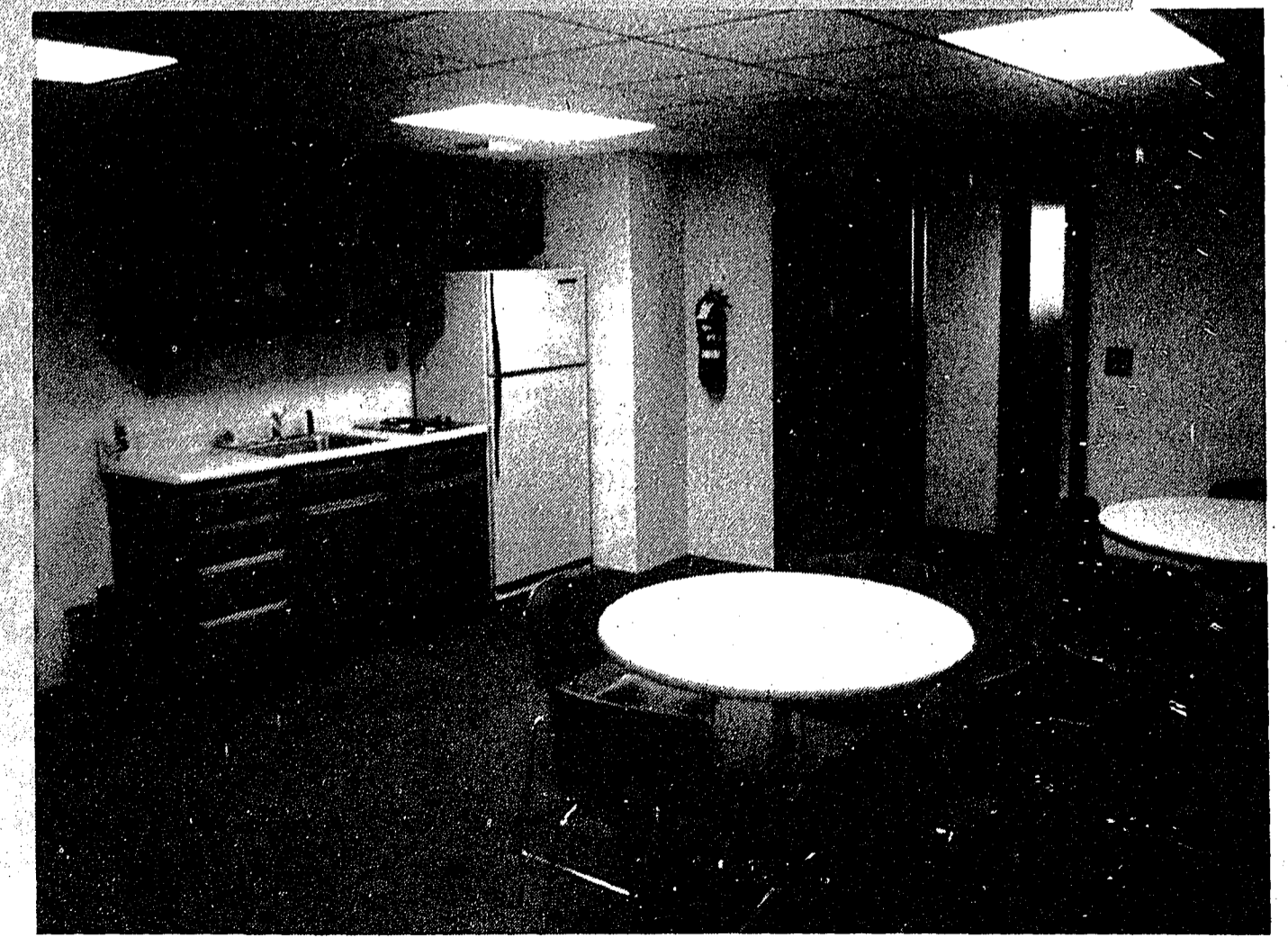
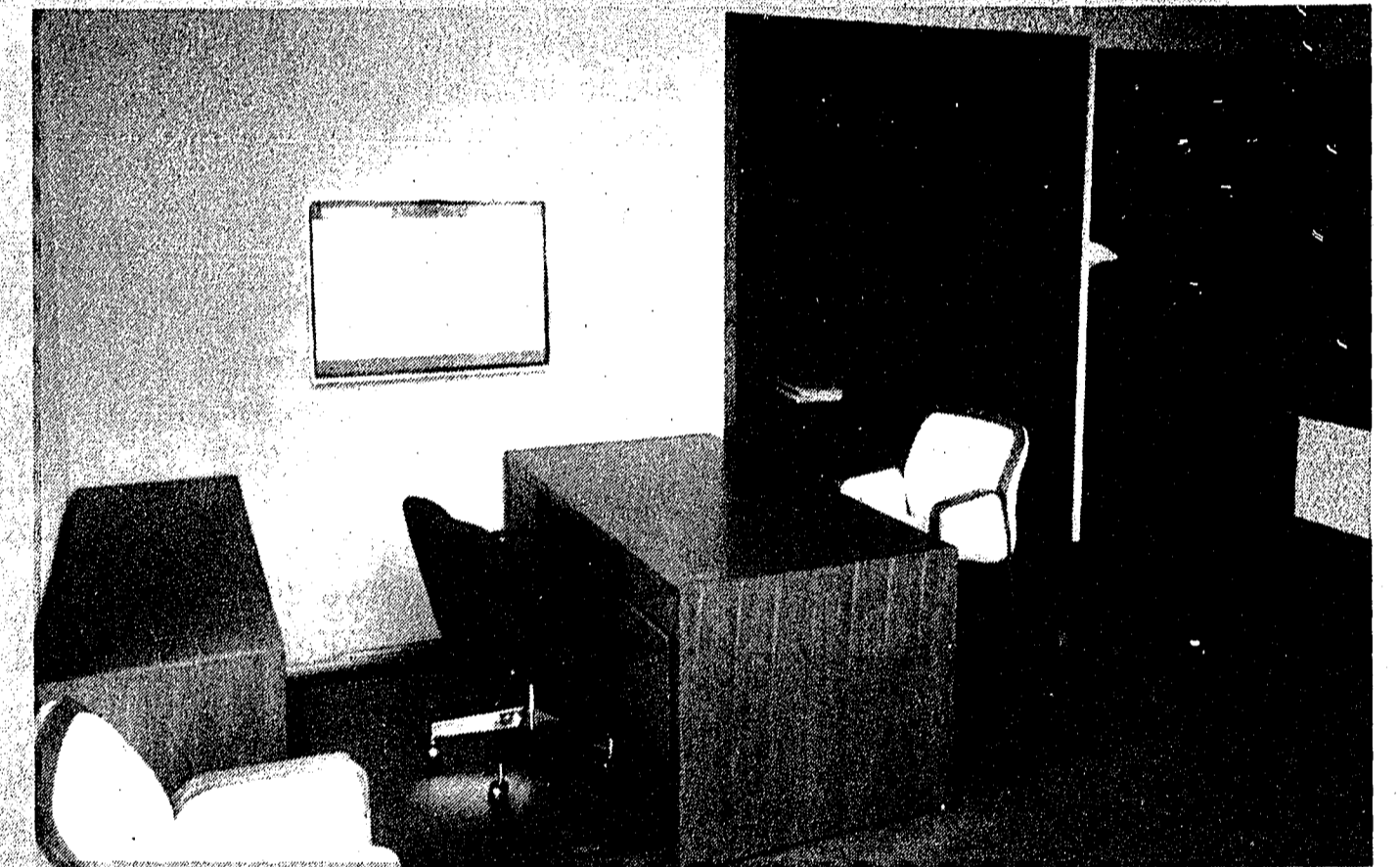
Wisconsin site and that the General Council be authorized to make the necessary financial and legal arrangements in cooperation with the General Conference Trustees and the Memorial Fund Trustees to effect the move."

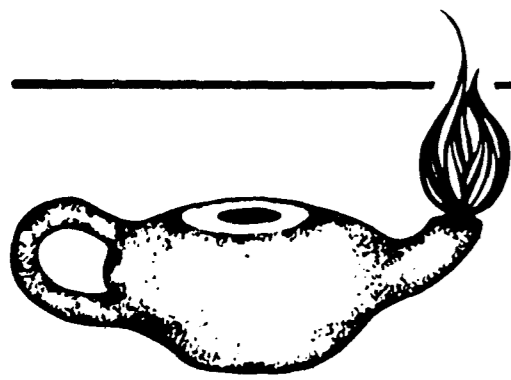
The recommendation passed by a delegate vote of 235 in favor of the relocation and 67 opposed. Negotiations are currently underway to finalize the purchase of this new site.

During their Post-Conference meeting, the General Council authorized the Executive Secretary, Dale Thorngate, to negotiate both the purchase of the new building in Janesville and the selling of the present building in Plainfield. At this time an offer to purchase the Janesville building has been delivered to the present owner and we are waiting for his reply.

Looking at the cost of the new building, and the cost to move the offices and employees, the General Council estimates that it will take approximately \$400,000 to effect the move. The plan to raise the funds is a two-fold one: \$200,000 to be raised by special gifts, either by individuals, families or churches and the other \$200,000 through sale of the present building in Plainfield.

Our Lord has given us real challenge for today and for the future. We pray that our response will be indicative of our understanding of God's will for us. □





Thy Word is a light...

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Mrs. Mary Clare

TELEVISION SHAPES OUR LIVES

What Can We Do?

Television continues to be a critical issue and of vital importance to every thinking person in our society. Headlines in newspapers reflect strong differences of opinion about what is or is not suitable programming. Bumper stickers promote "clean up TV" campaigns. Lawsuits ask the courts to remove programs from the air.

If we stop to think, we wonder if the evening news is giving us all the news or if we're getting information from only one perspective which may be biased or inaccurate. What kind of values are being communicated through game shows, the "soap operas," commercials?

Television is one of the major teachers of persons young and old but what does it teach? And how do you find out?

"Growing with Television," recently published by Media Action Research Center (MARC) and the Cooperative Publication Association, is finding enthusiastic acceptance in a wide range of situations/audiences. The series has been so widely accepted that five of the six publishers have reprinted their portions. The curriculum series has only been available since September 1980.

Dr. Joseph Brownrigg used the unit for adults with a combination church school class/community college course (for credit) and says: "As far as I'm concerned, it's ("Growing with Television") one of the fully legitimate intergenerational curriculum materials available. I'm hoping the Education Commission will consider using the entire series, kindergarten through adult, next year."

Dr. Gabriel Moran, well-known

Catholic educator made this comment: "It is a pleasure to find an approach to television that combines a positive attitude to the possibilities and a critical examination of the realities. The adult books treat the learner as adult; they provide material for discussion that is fresh and provocative. Exercises are designed to get maximum involvement with students in a variety of settings."

Maureen Smith, program director of the Catholic TV Center of the Diocese of Rockville Center in New York, says these materials are the answer to her desire for materials geared to various age levels, and "The exercises are among the best facilitation techniques I have used in my television awareness crusade. The users enjoy them and find them non-threatening as they are led to inter-active participation. The sharing and awakening that takes place is exciting and largely due to the materials (and the workings of the Holy Spirit)."

Marion R. Young, television consultant of the National PTA TV Action Center, says, "It is clear that television has been shaping our social, political, and religious values for years, but we're only beginning to aid the unwary viewer. 'Growing with Television' is the first comprehensive curriculum I've seen, teaching youth to analyze television using Christian and biblical teachings as a value base. We will be pleased to refer members of our TV Action Center to this curriculum."

There is a starter kit available for \$34.95 which includes a Program Guidebook and samples of the age-level materials. The Program Guidebook provide helps for training teachers and for planning and

implementing the use of this series. For more information contact: Shirley Whipple-Struchen, MARC — Suite 1370, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115, 212-865-6690; or Stuart Johnston, Cooperative Publication Association, Box 179, St. Louis, MO 63166, 314-371-6900. □

—Cooperative Publications

Teacher's Mini Lab

Creative Teaching

Creative teaching requires much time and thought by the teacher. A well planned lesson is imperative to making the best use of the time allotted.

There are many pitfalls into which experienced and inexperienced teachers alike, may fall. Some of these pitfalls are easily avoided if basic educational precepts are followed:

1. *Activity must be a part of the whole lesson.* "Art for Art's sake," a "way to entertain or keep occupied," is a waste of learning time.
2. *There are many types of responses to the lesson which are more suitable than "hand work."* Try some drama, singing, writing poetry, choral reading, etc.
3. *Be sure that the students understand the reason and/or purpose of activities.*
4. *Give adequate instructions, step by step if necessary.*
5. *Take time to work through the activity planned.* Be sure students you are teaching are capable of doing the activity whether art work or other response.

(Continued on page 14)

Decade of Discipleship

Our church is being richly blessed by our Discipleship program this year. "Decision to Discipleship" is a carefully worked out plan of study, working with a group in a "cell-group" weekly, and with one-to-one discipleship classes between discipler and disciple. An eight week covenant is signed by all who participate and there are 7 of the 8-week phases, covering a complete Christian Growth Study. At present, we have 4 Discipleship groups, with 1 or 2 more being formed... are you interested in participating? Disciplers are Pastor Davis, Katherine Davis, and Rita Diaz. Groups are being held in Seattle, Federal Way, and Enumclaw. □

—from Seattle Soundings

"OUR VISION — GOD'S GUIDANCE"

(Continued from page 15)

is the goal of this vision that God has given us. Our sense of fulfillment and success will be in the growth of Seventh Day Baptists around the world experiencing a total relationship to God.

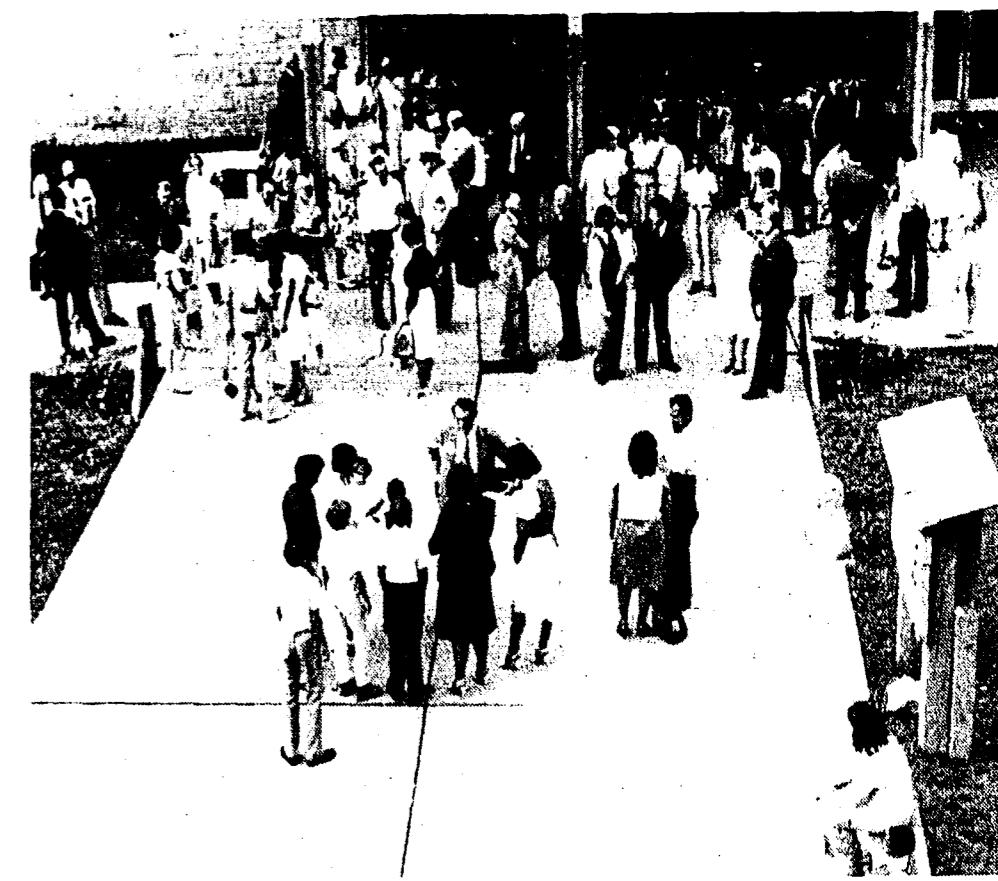
Ministry of Reconciliation

Right now I am flying from Plainfield, New Jersey, to Janesville, Wisconsin, to negotiate the purchase of a new building for our General Conference offices. I go in response to Conference action in August. The move is to a more central location into a building that is energy efficient and well suited to support our vision of outreach and growth for the 1980s and 90s.

God has given his people a vision for the future. He is saying to us, "Build upon the hard work and achievement of your predecessors, but move forward. Accept the challenge of your new president Dorothy Parrott to a 'Ministry of Reconciliation.'"

In this year of vision for Seventh Day Baptists I pray that as we relate to new disciples and new churches, as we move to our new site, that we will sense God's leading us to share his message of love and peace.

Vision is not the only key to success. We will focus on four other necessary elements in the next few months. Without vision, however, the people perish. □



EDITORIAL

(Continued from page 31)

The delegates rejected the General Council recommendation to make the Executive Secretary a voting member of the Council. They approved the changing of our Conference name to include "Canada" thus allowing the First Toronto Church to become a full-member of the Conference. With many differences of opinion there was ample reason to sing from time to time our conference theme song, "Bind Us Together."

This Conference was one of innovation in several exciting areas. All were entranced by the Magical Ministries with its special emphasis on the Gospel through the magical show. Ralph Mackintosh and his troupe are to be highly commended for their interesting and professional ministry.

Also we had our first viewing of the Media Project - the videotape ministry. Through videotape we were a part of an interview with Missionary Rodney Henry of the Philippines. We were also taken to the campus of the University of Redlands where Conference 1982 will be held. Pastor Charles Graffius and his staff have done an excellent job with the Media Project. They not only had the vision for this new ministry, but successfully got it off the ground this year - and we saw the results. We are sure that 1982 will be a year of even greater opportunities for the Media Project to have an effective part of the ever-expanding Seventh Day Baptist ministry.

All in all Conference was a blessing. We express appreciation to the President and all who had a part in making it meaningful. We look forward to this new year with its opportunities and challenges. President Dorothy Parrott has chosen a good theme for us to consider, "The Ministry of Reconciliation." May God grant us even greater opportunities to share His love as we seek to reconcile the world to our Lord. □



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

by Jane Mackintosh

I was reading recently an article by John Stott, noted author (Basic Christianity) and rector of All Soul's Church in London, England. In the article he examined a passage from Acts 2, centering on verse 42, "And they were devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." (NASB) This article encouraged me to further study of this passage and I hope this article will encourage you to further study of this passage which is a keen description of the Spirit-filled church made up of Spirit-filled individuals.

The passage finishes Peter's sermon to the "Jews, living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven" (Acts 2:5) who had gathered when they heard the commotion caused by the whirlwind descent of the Holy Spirit on believers gathered for Pentecost. In his sermon, Peter boldly told these Jewish men that they were responsible for the brutal death of the long-awaited Messiah and Luke records in Acts 2:37, that these Jews were "... pierced to the heart..." and wanted to know what to do. Peter told them, "Repent and let each one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." (v. 38). Three thousand people were born into a new Spirit-filled life that day.

Four Keys for Church Growth

Luke then records in verse 42, what seem to be the four keys to growth for the Spirit-filled church. "And they were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching which would be the teachings centered on Jesus Christ. We have their teachings in Scripture so the equivalent for our purposes would be to devote ourselves to the study of the Word. They also devoted themselves to fellowship, presumably with fellow believers, gaining strength and joy as they shared experiences in their new-found life in the Spirit. Today we are able to find that same strength and joy as we share with fellow believers what the Lord is doing in our lives. As I examined the third key, "the breaking of bread," I reasoned that this term must be a reference to the Lord's Supper since the other common reference for this term is that of eating meals and that seemed inappropriate in this verse. In his article, John Stott interpreted this as meaning a time of formal worship. I don't feel that free with the interpretation to name it as worship, so I call it a time of remembrance of Jesus Christ. Jesus instructed the disciples at the Last Supper that as often as they partook of communion, they were to do it remembering Him. Certainly this was meant to be a very solemn, personal time of remembering His sacrifice and a time of remembering Who He is. And we are brought to a time of thanksgiving and worship of God, the Father and the Son as we do this remembering. Finally we find they were devoting to prayer. I do not understand how prayer works nor why we must pray if we are to grow as a church, but I do know from experience that taking time together for prayer is an essential issue in numerical and spiritual growth of any group of believers. Here is an example of prayer work-

ing in a group:

When I was in college, a miniscule group of believers met deciding that we wanted to see growth numerically of our group. We had no idea where to begin other than to set up times for prayer together. We met for an hour each evening to pray. Within four months our group grew from 4-5 believers at a prayer meeting, to 40-50 believers, many of whom were new believers, at each prayer meeting. In the fall when we opened the school year with a barbecue, 200 college young people showed up to find out about the Christian group. We quickly felt the need for groups for Bible study and fellowship as well as prayer, and the group continued to grow spiritually and numerically. Prayer is vital to growth and I suspect is frequently an overlooked part of our church growth plans.

Luke finishes the chapter describing the results of the Spirit's work in the early church. "And everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles." (v. 43) He tells of their concern for one another, how they shared material wealth with those in need. He also tells how they were daily witnessing in the temple, fellowshiping at meals in one another's homes "...praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved." (v. 47) Their church was growing in an enviable way.

This passage seemed so significant as we met as a church last week to set goals and plans for our church growth. It stood out as Scriptural direction for planning our program. We do need times for study of the Word, for fellowship, for remembering Jesus Christ, and for praying. We need these planned

(Continued on page 14)

FOCUS



MISSIONS TODAY

•**LIGHT BEARERS FOR CHRIST** team begins its fall tour ministry this month in New England. They will be at NE Yearly Meeting, Rockville RI, on September 26! Pray for their ministry. Participate with designated gifts to LBC Treas., Box 2133, Florence, AL 35630.

•**CENTRAL AFRICA CONFERENCE, Malawi, will hold its annual sessions at Makapwa Station, Sept. 15-19. Growing outreach in their own country in addition to missions in Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Kenya will be considered. Other contacts in Zaire may also have representatives present.**

•**SAN DIEGO, CA, ministry of Church Extension Pastor John Peil began September 1. PTL for answers to prayer! While his major support comes through the Missionary Society, the local branch church (of Riverside, CA) and the Pacific Coast Association have a vital role.**

•**REPUBLIC OF KOREA: Pastor Jin Sung Kim reports organization of a conference of three churches and election of officers. This is a step long prayed for. Korea is where the population is becoming Christian at a higher rate than in most other countries. Over one million reportedly attended a single Billy Graham service in Seoul earlier this year.**

•**DIRECTOR OF CHURCH EXTENSION AND EVANGELISM, Mynor G. Soper, will participate in the Tri-State Fair Booth at**

Amarillo, TX, this month. This has been arranged by a local family interested in making Seventh Day Baptists and their beliefs known in this area.

•**PHILIPPINES: A new slide set—"But What Are These. . .?" presenting pastors and churches has been prepared by Missionary Rodney Henry. It will be released in mid-September. Have your Missionary Keyworker schedule a showing in your church, youth group or Sabbath school.**

•**MEMPHIS, TN, SDB Church began services in its new building late in July. It is located at 3474 Egypt Central Rd., Memphis. It is located on 5+ acres in a new and growing area of North Memphis and came completely furnished—except for some office equipment. This step signals a growing thrust for SDB's in the mid-south.**

•**TORONTO, CANADA, SDB Church was welcomed into the SDB General Conference, USA and Canada, following action to change the bylaws at Conference in Salem, WV. Over ten from this church were present, including Pastor Joseph Samuels. We pray for other new groups and churches that will relate to us in the near future.**

•**A NEW SITE for the Houston, TX, SDB Church was assured in July. Located in the NW section of Houston, it will offer easy accessibility and a ministry in a developing area. They plan to begin construction of their building yet this year! Missionary Pastor Robert Babcock leads this growing outreach.**

•**WORLD TRAVEL?? Any individual planning travel abroad should contact the Missionary Society office for names/addresses of SDB's in the country(ies) they visit. There are helpful guidelines that will also be shared. Do more than travel! Encourage other seeking SDB fellowship/understanding. Plan at least six weeks ahead.**

PRAYER

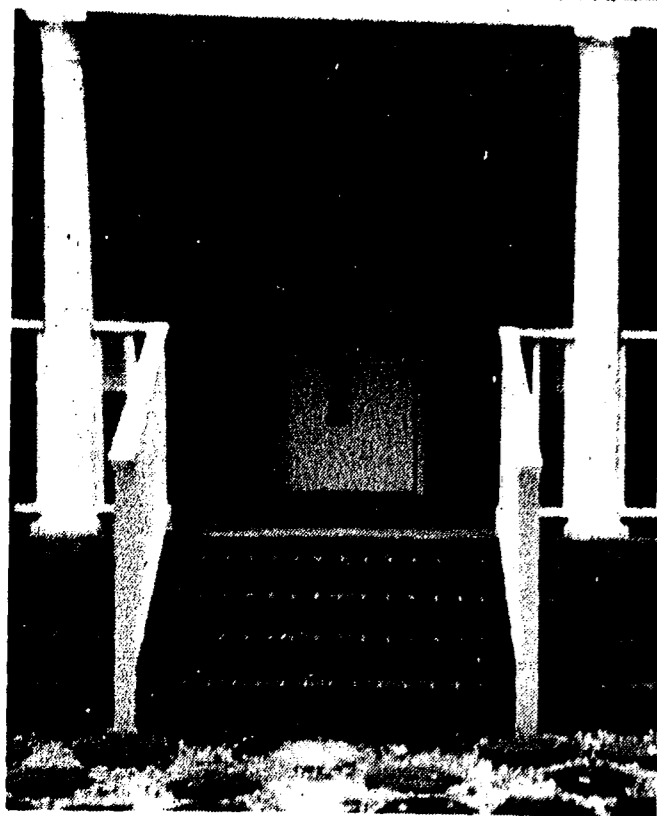
A Prayer Reminder
for Each Day!!

OCTOBER
1981

PRAY FOR:

- 1-Light Bearers for Christ, fall tour ministry/designated giving
- 2-Pastor Jin Sung Kim, Sung Nam City, Republic of Korea
- 3-A Sabbath of celebration and sharing/ Mid-Cont. Assoc., Denver
- 4-Planning for 1982 by my local church—discipleship emphasis
- 5-Area Association meetings held this month: PCA, NC, CNY
- 6-Pastor W. Sulani, Lilongwe, Malawi, Africa extension ministry
- 7-Dean J. Paul Green/Council on Ministry/new ministerial students
- 8-Missionaries Rod & Camille Henry, Cebu City, The Philippines
- 9-Pastor Dale Rood, beginning service at Pawcatuck Church, Westerly, RI
- 10-My Pastor as he opens God's Word
- 11-Memorial Board Trustees, quarterly meeting, Plainfield, NJ
- 12-Pastor Joel L.O. Omare, Kisii, Kenya, Africa
- 13-Exec. Secy. Dale D. Thorngate
- 14-Special direction for Secy. Thorngate in implementing move to WI
- 15-Retired pastors and their wives
- 16-Pastor Joseph Alegre, Melbourne, Australia
- 17-Peter Tarin, theological student, Latin American Bible College, Los Angeles, CA
- 18-Tract Society/Plainfield, NJ, and Bd. Christian Ed./Alfred, NY, quarterly meetings
- 19-Church Extension Pastor John Peil, San Diego, CA
- 20-Carleton Wilson, student at Conservative Baptist Theological Seminary, Denver, CO
- 21-Missionaries David & Bettie Pearson, Blantyre, Malawi, Africa
- 22-Church Extension Pastor, William Shobe, Atlanta, GA
- 23-Leon Wheeler, student at Central Baptist Seminary, Kansas City, MO
- 24-Pastorless churches seeking leadership
- 25-Missionary Board quarterly meeting, Westerly, RI
- 26-Baptist Church Extension Conf., Sioux Falls, SD at NAB Seminary
- 27-Families of ministerial students
- 28-Mark Irwin, Adams Center, NY, beginning study toward ministry at Elam Bible Institute
- 29-Church Extension Pastor, William Shoffner, Memphis, TN
- 30-Pastor Joe and Joyce Samuels, seeking permanent visas to minister at Toronto, Ontario
- 31-Verne Wright, student at Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, PA

the CHURCH in ACTION



The entrance to the church proclaims "Welcome" to those who enter in.

NEW HOME FOR MEMPHIS CHURCH

MEMPHIS, TN — When God decided it was time for the people of Israel to cross the Red Sea they didn't have to go over or around it. He simply divided the waters and they went through it. When Jesus had to reach the disciples in a boat at sea He just walked across the water to get there. When the Lord decided it was time for the Memphis Church to have its own building it just seemed to happen.

When I left Memphis in June to attend Southwest Association meetings one of our church families had inquired about the property. There was no particular follow-up, the price was too high, and the Lord was still developing His plan.

At the Association meeting Memphis was chosen to host Association for 1982. We were also asked to consider Memphis as one of the regional hosts for a pastor's retreat in 1982.

God is so wonderful as He provides all our needs. Upon returning to Memphis we found that the price of the church building had been reduced by \$15,000 to \$95,000.

A very general description of the property follows. The land consists of five very beautiful acres with large trees on it including apple and pecan trees. A large shaded circular



This new facility, located on some five acres, was recently purchased by the Memphis, TN, church.

drive brings you up to the bold "Welcome" sign on the front door. The building came completely furnished including piano, hymnals, cushions, even a communion set. When God does a job He does it completely.



An interior view of the chapel of the Memphis church with a seating capacity of some 125.

Within a period of five weeks the earnest money was raised, the Memorial Fund very lovingly and speedily granted our financing request, and we held our first Sabbath

services in the new building. The sanctuary seats 120. There are six classrooms, completely furnished. We already can see how easy it will be to enlarge the sanctuary but we also already have the blueprints for a new sanctuary when it is needed.

We have big plans, new ministries, and God's Spirit guiding us. We've already begun to have local residents stop by to talk with us and we are praying for their openness.

In three short years Memphis has gone from a few people meeting in a trailer to a growing, visible body action in the power of God to a site where we intend to minister to all the people of God everywhere. □

—Pastor Bill Shoffner

CHURCH EVENTS HIGHLIGHTED

DENVER, CO—This has been a fine spring and summer so far in Denver . . . our church has been busy with growing activities . . . Easter Sabbath was celebrated with a beautiful Cantata "The Seven Last Words of Christ," presented by our choir.

Spring continued with a busy time of clean-up and fix-up at both our church and Camp Paul Hummel as we prepared to have Junior Camps, and SCSC training sessions.

The films enjoyed this season have been "JESUS" and "HOW THE BIBLE CAME TO US." The film JESUS was attended by over 100 people. An early showing of this film was held for senior citizens from several of the nursing homes in the area.

Vacation Bible School was held jointly with a neighboring church, St. Paul's Community Church, the third week in July. This was attended by many eager young people. A great blessing was received by all involved.

Our Fellowship Luncheons have been particularly interesting this quarter. One month was a showing of a trip to Mexico, and the visit of

MEMBERSHIP INCREASED

PLAINFIELD, NJ—We are encouraged by having 14 new members since Pastor Victor Skaggs came to us last September. This brings our total membership up from 76 to 83 since seven members have been transferred. Our average attendance in the last three months has been 48, a great improvement over a year ago.

We had three baptisms on July 10, and Andre and Tracy Tyler joined our church the next day. They are stationed in Hawaii and were married there by an army chaplain last year. They were remarried by Pastor Skaggs in a lovely ceremony following our service the Sabbath they

Daryl and Barbara White to the General Conference there. Another time we were taken on a picture trip of Israel by Dr. David and Sheila Stabel. One time we had a visit by Conference President Charles Grafius who spoke of plans of the denomination and this year's Conference schedule.

We all regretted seeing the time come when we had to say "Good-bye" to Bill and Shelly Shobe, but knowing it was God's Plan that they take up their pastorate at the Atlanta, Georgia, church we wish them God's Blessing always as they go about His Work.

The Denver church has approximately 75 used hymnals (CHRISTIAN WORSHIP: A HYMNAL) special edition, using Text of the Revised Standard Version of the Bible, Judson Press, Valley Forge, Penn. 1953 and 36 blue choir robes with stoles, which we would be happy to give to any fellowship or church needing them. If you are interested please contact Rev. Edgar Wheeler, 2301 Wadsworth Blvd., Lakewood, CO 80215.

May God be with us all, as we travel, and attend General Conference in Salem, West Virginia, this year. May His richest blessings be ours. □—Donna Hastings

joined. Many visitors were present for the ceremony and for the delightful reception that followed.

Another special Sabbath was June 13, when Dean and Mrs. Herbert Saunders, Dean-elect and Mrs. J. Paul Green, Jr., and the Institute students, including the Light Bearers, took part in the service. They sang "The Master Has Come," and seven students conducted the service. A fellowship dinner allowed us to become better acquainted. The Light Bearers inspired us with their concert that evening, and an offering of \$114 was received.

Other special Sabbaths have been Mother's Day, Sabbath Renewal Day, Children's Day, and Stewardship Sabbath, when Executive Secretary K. D. Hurley spoke encouragingly about the work of Our World Mission. On Children's Day the children sat on the platform while the pastor told a story and read a Scripture alphabet in rhyme. We enjoyed singing children's songs, and Peggy Saunders played a flute solo.

Two enjoyable, though somewhat sad, occasions have been in honor of the Saunders family and Dr. and Mrs. Hurley, who were about to leave. When the Saunders came to us nearly 14 years ago there were two very small children, but now there are three who are not so small, Brian, Peggy, and Michael. At their farewell reception June 21 they all received gifts, including humorous ones, and many fond memories and regrets were expressed.

The farewell church picnic at the Duryea home on July 15 was a total surprise to the Hurleys, who thought they were to be the only guests. A gift was presented and many regrets at their leaving were voiced. During their six years with us K.D. was ordained as a deacon, and we will miss our deacon and deaconess a great deal. They, like the Saunders, have been very active members of our church.

We are happy to have Dale and Janet Thorngate with us, and we look forward to the coming of the Greens. □

—Ruth Hunting Parker

ALFRED STATION CELEBRATES SESQUICENTENNIAL

ALFRED STATION, NY—Our sesquicentennial celebration was held May 29-30, 1981. On Friday night we had a re-enactment of scenes from early church history. Meetings were very interesting, in which church members were reprimanded and, in some cases, dismissed for not following all the church regulations. Many attempts at church building resulted in the one now in use.

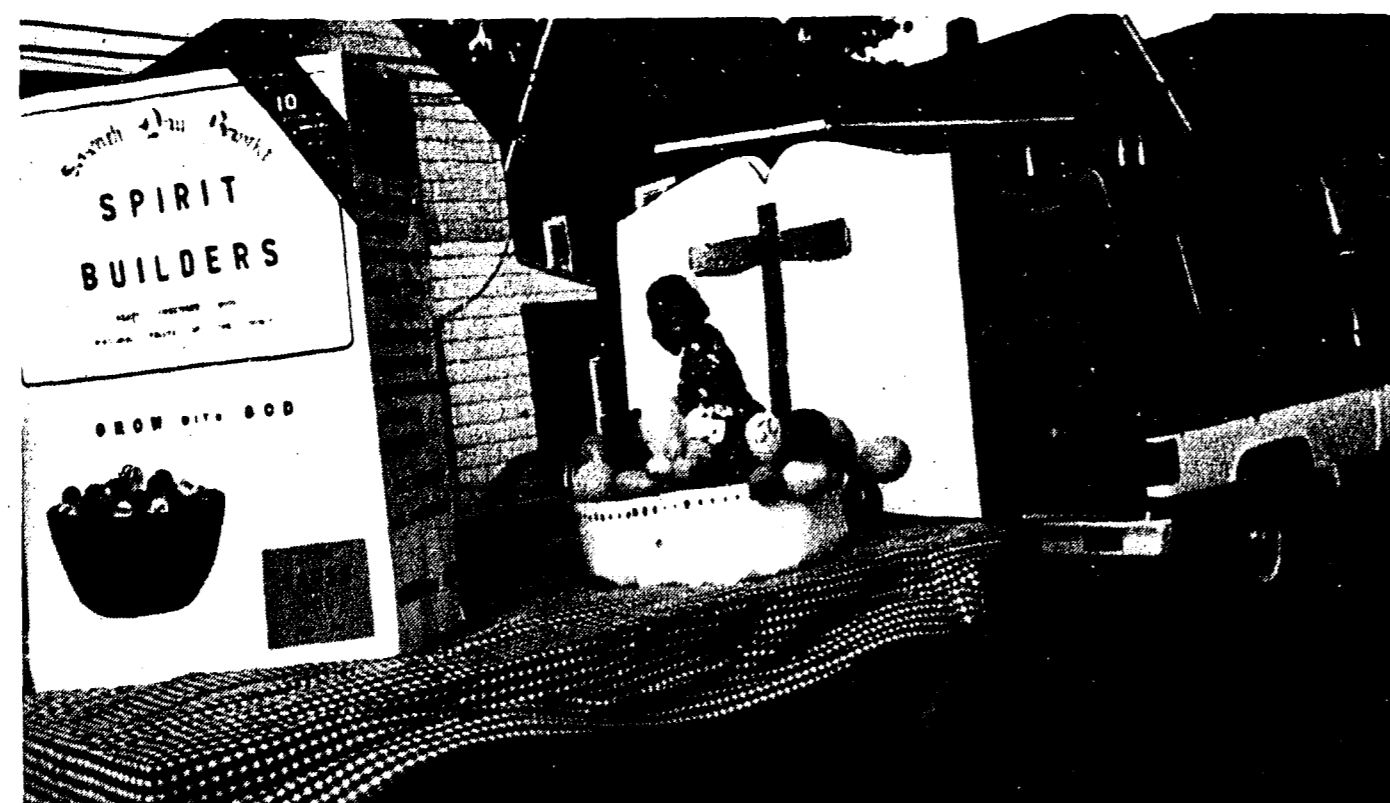
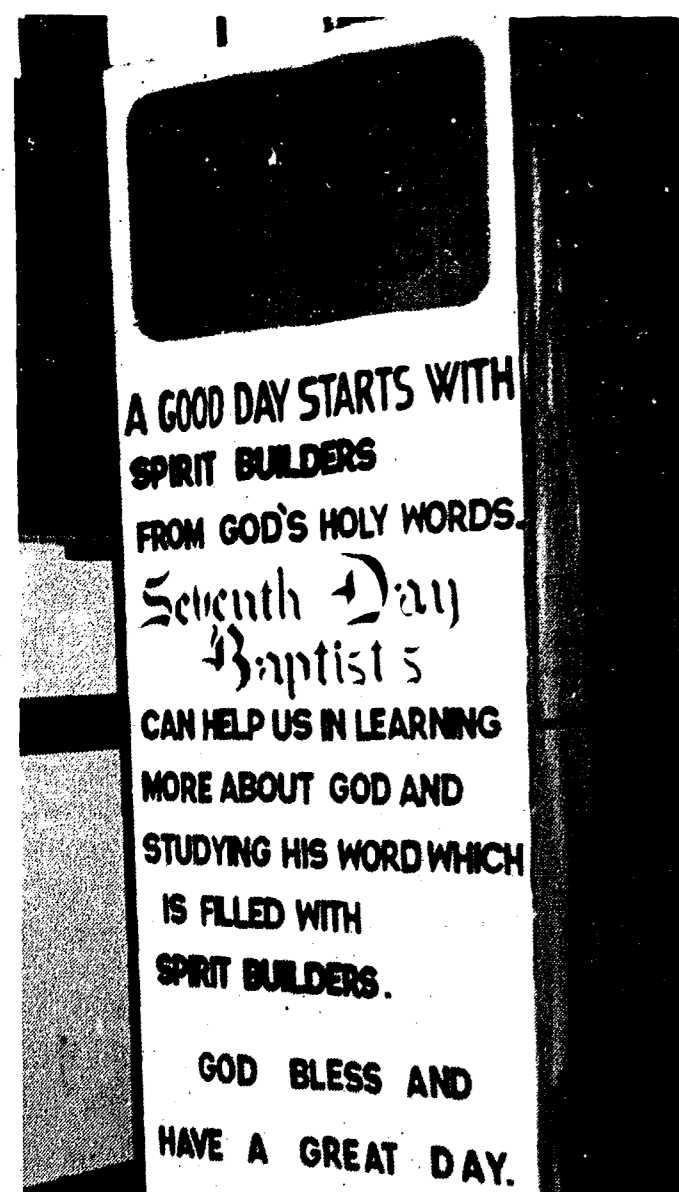
On Sabbath Day we had special music, and prayers honoring our members of 50 years or more. The sermon was by the former pastor, Rev. Albert N. Rogers. Dinner was in the social rooms of the church. In the afternoon there was a reading of letters from churches and friends, recognition of choir directors and organists of times past and present. There was also recognition of former ministers: Rev. Edward Sutton, Rev. Victor Skaggs, Rev. Albert Rogers, and Rev. Elmo Fitz Randolph. All of these pastors were present except Rev. Randolph who sent a taped message.

On June 16 the ladies of the Union Industrial Society had their Spring banquet at the Coachlight Steak House in Hornell. Mrs. John Jacox of Alfred presided in the installation of next year's officers.

A beautiful display case is now in our vestibule, thanks to Clifton Woodworth. It was given in memory of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Tim Turner.

The Strawberry Festival of June 28 netted us \$18.50. The Vacation Bible School was held June 29-July 3 with Rev. Zwiebel as supervisor. Our church had a share in the experiences at Camp Harley Sutton July 5-28. Robert Cartwright, Amanda Snyder, George Calhoun, and Barbara Snyder were directors for Junior Camp, Junior High, Senior High and Primary Camp, respectively. □

—Miss Rena Clarke



The Battle Creek Church sponsored this float in the city's sesquicentennial parade. The conference theme, "Grow With God" and the city's motto "Cereal City" were developed into the float theme which gave the church much visibility.

ATTENDANCE UP NEW FACILITIES PLANNED

BATTLE CREEK, MI — What a busy time in Battle Creek — for our city and our church! This is Battle Creek's sesquicentennial year, so there have been lots of special celebrations, including the international hot air balloon championship held the last week of June, a Sesquicentennial Memorial Day Parade, and Pioneer Festival May 24th.

The church sponsored a float for the Memorial Day parade. It was an ideal way for us to give a witness to God, give visibility to Seventh Day Baptists, and to take our place with other churches and community groups in commemorating the special day and our city's anniversary.

This year's Conference theme, "Grow with God" and our city's "Cereal City" motto were developed into a unique float theme by Jan Noel and Esther Cruz. Our youth and young adult fellowships built the float with advice, time, labor, and materials donated by other church members. The float base was covered with a checkered red "tablecloth" to simulate a breakfast table. On the table were an open Bible with sparkling cross, a box of Seventh Day Baptist "Spirit Builder" cereal, and a cereal

bowl with Spirit Builder cereal, represented by balloons on which fruits of the spirit were printed.

Reading the cereal box gave everyone the particulars on how to "Grow with God" — the cereal was "ready-sweetened with natural fruits of the spirit" and fortified with ten essential commandments with love," "Nutrition Information" on the side of the box listed the "Fruits — with God" as supplying 100 per cent of the daily requirements for nutrition. Jan Noel rode in the "cereal bowl" on the float to pass out the "fruits of the spirit" cereal balloons. We were proud of this witness to Battle Creek. After the parade the "cereal box" and "Bible" were saved and have been on display in our church basement for "up-close" appreciation of the handiwork done.

The Ladies Aid Society ran a refreshment stand at the Pioneer Festival, which included working craftsman and featured a reconstructed log cabin at Leila Arboretum. Though the weather was rainy, the ladies fed many people and added to their treasury.

There has been noisy "busyness" outside our church recently. Two apartment buildings acquired earlier by us were torn down, giving us another whole corner of property at the corner of Emmett and Buckeye Streets. The large cement two-story apartment building at the corner was deeded to us last year and had set idle until we could decide

definitely whether to refurbish it as a Christian education building or to demolish it. The intervening apartment building then burned, and we were able to acquire it also. After consulting with an architect, the decision was made to demolish the burned out apartment house behind the church. The basements have been filled in, and the Trustees are getting bids on chain link fencing to enclose this new parking area on three sides. More than a year ago our Committee to Plan Church Growth proposed that we acquire these properties. With God's help that has now been accomplished.

With our church attendance up 20 per cent the first quarter of this year and eight new members since the first of the year, we continue to make long-range plans to build additions to our church facility. Phase I of the proposed plan is for a new lobby and ground level entrance on the North including a covered drive-through and ramp for the handicapped. Sanctuary-level restrooms would be built where our present front entrance is. The lobby area would be large enough to accommodate our fellowship gatherings after church services. For our older church members, the addition would be especially welcome as there would be no need to go up and down the entrance or basement stairs. Phase II of the building plan is for a two-story Christian education building which would replace

our present Parish House and be connected to the new entrance.

Because funds for any building program would necessarily need to be over and above our present offerings, a Faith-Promise Giving Program for the purpose of expanding our facilities has been adopted by the Church. Each Church member has been asked to write down the amount he can trust God to provide over and above all expected sources of income for the next year for use in our building fund. It will be exciting to see how God provides if we have the faith to let Him use us as channels for expanding His ministry. Faith-Promise cards are just being turned in, and already some money has been received in this program of faith.

Inside our church changes have been taking place, too. Our corps of ushers has a new look and a new awareness of their ministry of serving. All wear matching maroon sports jackets with gold name tags and carnations, thanks to a generous donor. Special training was held for the corps where they learned not only the importance of their ministry to incoming worshippers, but also the mechanics of their job. Seeing their special training being put into practice has been evident to each of us on Sabbath mornings.

In the last few months our Sabbath morning worship services have included two baby dedications with three babies being dedicated by their parents, graduation recognition, and a special commissioning service for John Lawhead, who is now serving at Sunshine Mountain.

As our Discipleship cells continue their studies, we see and feel ever widening circles of love and caring spilling over into all areas of church life. The past few months we have had many hurting families — those bereaved and those facing serious illnesses. It seems timely that at this particular time we should start holding special worship and spiritual healing services of Sabbath nights.

Pastor S. Kenneth Davis and four other church members attended a Spiritual Healing and Church Administration Seminar in Canton,

Ohio, the first of May, led by Pastor Don Bartow, pastor of the Westminster Presbyterian Church there. The group had a week of intense study on the Scriptural mandate for healing as followers of Christ and as agents of the Holy Spirit to bring wholeness to the whole person — body, mind, and spirit. "Go, preach, and heal." The pastor reported that "it was the unanimous feeling of those attending the healing seminar in Canton that, though we have not attempted public healing services before, that there appears to be Scriptural warrant for it as followers of Christ. Our first public service for this phase of our ministry as set up by our Diaconate, was held June 20th with 20 people in attendance. PTL!□

—Karen Thorngate

STRENGTH IN THE FAITH (Continued from page 28)

My prayer is that we will grow as individuals and as a denomination. My firm conviction, as often stated, is that our unity is in Christ. The foundation upon which progress will be built is spiritual renewal in our lives, in the life of our churches and, therefore, in the life of our denomination.□

RECORDER REACTIONS

Sincere thanks to the many friends and relatives who helped to make our forty-eighth wedding anniversary such a happy time. The surprise celebration took place on June 13, 1981, at the home of our children Robert and Marietta Fansler near Townsend, Delaware.

—Mr. and Mrs. Don Gray
New Auburn, WI

MARRIAGES

BRANNON-SHARP.—Dennis James Brannon of Morristown, NJ, son of Warren and Marion Brannon, and Patricia Ellen Sharp of Wayne, NJ, daughter of Mrs. Johanna Sharp and the late William Sharp, were married August 8, 1981, in the First Christian Reformed Church of Haledon, NJ, by Pastor Lindy Webb of Savannah, GA, a friend and former

associate of Dennis'. They will reside in Morristown, NJ.

BOLLINGER-DRAKE. — Wayne Bollinger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bollinger, and Rachel Drake, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Drake, were united in marriage at the First Seventh Day Baptist Church on Genesee, Little Genesee, NY, on August 1, 1981, with Pastor Steven Crouch officiating. They now reside in York, PA.

COCCA-SUTTON. — William Philip Cocca, Greene, NY, son of the late Wm. and Carmella Cocca of Buffalo, NY, and Wendy Jo Sutton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Sutton, Greene, NY, were united in marriage on July 18, 1981, at the Alfred Station Seventh Day Baptist Church, Alfred Station, NY, with the Rev. Rex E. Zwiebel, pastor of the bride, officiating. They will reside in Greene, NY.

BIRTHS

BETHEL. — A daughter, Kristin Leigh, to Bill and Sue (McSparin) Bethel of Harrisburg, IL, on July 24, 1981.

CROUCH. — A daughter, Sarah Lynn, to Steven and Rebecca (Davis) Crouch, of Little Genesee, NY, on July 20, 1981.

GRASSHAM. — A son, John Phillip, to Robert and Barbara (Burdick) Grassham of Albuquerque, NM, on February 25, 1981.

HOPKINS. — A daughter, Sara Lois, to Keith and Janece (Goodrich) Hopkins of Lincoln, NE, on May 19, 1981.

JACKSON. — A son, Michael Seager, to Michael and Dianne (Seager) Jackson of Little Rock, AR, on August 25, 1980.

KEOWN. — A daughter, Balie Anne, to Butch and Debbie (Barber) Keown of Omaha, NE, on June 23, 1981.

LOOFBORO. — A daughter, Amy Elizabeth, to LeRoy and Denice Loofboro of Milton, WI, on June 30, 1981.

RADLIFF. — A daughter, Amanda Leigh, to Roger and Janette (Fetrow) Radliff of Waterford, CT, on July 15, 1981.

TERRY. — Twin daughters, Jennifer Michelle and Jessica Marie, to James and Sally (Condzio) Terry of Waterford, CT, on July 30, 1981.

• Stacy Burt, a young member of the Salem church, was hurt in a fall during the General Conference session at Salem College. She was released from the hospital in less than a week and is at home recuperating from a broken arm, a slight concussion, and a sore back. Stacy and her family thank everyone for their concern and prayers. Her address is 7 Daisy Street, Salem, WV 26426.□

ACCESSIONS

DENVER, CO
Edgar Wheeler, Pastor

By Baptism:
Mrs. Patricia Ward

By Testimony:
Mrs. Beulah Burkhardt

By Letter:
Carlton Worth Wilson
Carole (Mrs. Carlton) Wilson

MILTON, WI
Earl Cruzan, Pastor

By Baptism:
Ian Burdick
Gregory Hess
Kevin Hoff
Jodi Jehn
LaVerne Luchsinger
Chad Ochs
Christopher Otto
Renee Pierce

By Testimony:
Marcy Lippincott

By Letter:
Daryl Lippincott
Barbara (Mrs. Herbert) Saunders
Rev. Herbert E. Saunders
Brian Saunders
Peggy Sue Saunders
Michael Saunders

PLAINFIELD, NJ
Victor Skaggs, Pastor

By Baptism:
Andre L. Tyler
Tracy Herman (Mrs. Andre) Tyler

ROCKVILLE, RI

By Letter:
Rev. David C. Gran
Mrs. David C. Gran
Mrs. Charles Greene

SALEM, WV
Paul Green, Pastor

By Testimony:
Donald Mills
Joanne Arlen Morehead
Rebecca I. Schweigart
Elizabeth Whipple

Associate:
Senator Jennings Randolph

SEATTLE, WA
Duane L. Davis, Pastor

By Baptism:
Kora Lee Roup

By Testimony:
Darwin L. Roup
Wanda Roup

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

By Baptism:
Mercedes Borahona

By Testimony:
Roger J. Edwards

OBITUARIES

BROCK.—Hazel Langworthy was born March 18, 1897 in Greene Settlement, NY, the daughter of Libby and John Langworthy and died April 16, 1981 at her home near Petersburg, NY. She was baptized in Adams Center by the Rev. E. A. Witter when pastor of that Seventh Day Baptist Church, and was a very active member in her youth.

She attended school in Adams Center then graduated from the Teachers Training Institute of Adams, teaching in rural schools in that vicinity. Later she went to Petersburg, NY, to teach and boarded at the home of Harold Brock, whom she later married. They had one son, Wayne, who lives near their rural home with his wife and two children.

She spent her entire life in her rural home and, although she attended the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Berlin, NY, occasionally through the years, she retained her membership in her home church of Adams Center. Burial was in Petersburg, NY. —D.W.G.

DAGGETT.—Dorcas Evelyn, 79, was born August 29, 1901 in Dodge County, MN, and died suddenly at her home in Blooming Prairie, MN, on June 20, 1981.

She had been a member of the Dodge Center, MN, and Boulder, CO, churches. Funeral services were held at the Dodge Center Seventh Day Baptist Church with Rev. Milton Schoepf officiating. Burial was in Riverside Cemetery at Dodge Center.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Lester. Survivors include one son, Richard K. Daggett of Spring Valley, MN; one daughter, Mrs. Marvin (Barbara) Pfeifer of Blooming Prairie, MN; one brother, George Sanford of St. Cloud, MN, and nine grandchildren. —S.C.

HARRIS.—Charles F., son of the late Lawrence H. and Jennie Tomlinson Harris, and the husband of Anita Davis Harris, was born in Shiloh, New Jersey, on August 2, 1911, and died suddenly on August 4, 1981, while attending the annual session of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference being held in Salem, West Virginia.

Mr. Harris lived in Shiloh all his life and was a most active member of the the Shiloh Seventh Day Baptist Church. The church, recognizing his dedication to his Master and the building of His kingdom, asked him to serve as a deacon, and this he did until his death. He also served various groups as Sabbath School teacher, and was active in a multitude of other ways.

He was a tireless worker for the denomination. For many years he served on the Memorial Board, and was a member of the American Sabbath Tract Society serving as its president for several years. He served on the General Conference Commission, and was president of this national body in 1957.

He was a graduate of Salem College with the Class of 1932 and had been a teacher at Bridgeton High School, retiring in 1971, at which time he was guidance director. Mr. Harris was a former member and secretary of the Hopewell Board of Education.

Surviving besides his wife are two sons, John L. Harris of Pennsville and Jeffrey R.

Harris of Millville; three daughters, Mrs. Joseph (Carol) Loper, Nancy DuBois and Mrs. Robert (Jane) Jernoske, all of Bridgeton; two brothers; the Rev. Everett T. Harris of Westerly, R.I., and Olin R. Harris of Shiloh; three sisters, Pauline Ireland of DeLand, Fla., Martie Hitchner of Shiloh, and Mrs. Belford (Ruth) Harris of Salem; 14 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were conducted by his pastor, the Rev. Charles H. Bond, in the sanctuary of the church on Sabbath afternoon, August 8. Interment was in the church cemetery.

—C.H.B.
HUGHES.—Elsie McKay, age 67, died in Little Rock, AR, on July 4, 1981. She was the wife of Alva T. (Theo) Hughes and a charter member of Christ Seventh Day Baptist Church in Little Rock.

She is survived by one daughter, Inez (Mrs. James M.) Mitchell of Little Rock; three sons, Douglas of Kingsville, TX, Allen of Arlington, TX and Rick of Houston, TX; a foster daughter, Lucille Shelton of DeWitt, AR; five sisters, Ester Sanderson and Leland Draper of Roe, AR, Mildred Mitchell of Euless, TX, Irene Fetty of Irving, TX, and Doris Mitchell of Nady, AR; two brothers, John H. McKay of Jacksonville, AR and Thomas E. McKay of Euless, TX; eleven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

The funeral service was held on July 6 at the Essex Funeral Home with the Rev. W. E. Money officiating. Burial was at Hockenberry Cemetery at Nady, AR.

—J.M.M.
POLAN.—Flossie Iona, of Blandville, WV died July 25, 1981 in Camden Clark Hospital, Parkersburg, following a lengthy illness.

She was born Sept. 28, 1914, at Blandville, Doddridge County, WV, a daughter of the late Henry and Missouri Gauden Trent.

On Dec. 23, 1930, she married Willie Davisson (Bill) Polan, who preceded her in death July 29, 1975.

Surviving are one daughter, Mrs. Gene (Carol Sue) Lowther, Belmont; three sons, Dr. Carl E. Polan, Blacksburg, Va., Clinton Ray Polan, St. Marys, Cecil E. Polan, Tacoma Park, MD.; five brothers, Amos R. Trent, John S. Trent, Clarence Trent, all of Salem, William M. Trent, West Union, and Harry Trent, Shinnston; thirteen grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, several nieces and nephews.

Two brothers and one half-sister preceded her in death.

Mrs. Polan was most recently employed by the Doddridge County Senior Citizens Program. Prior to that, she was Tupperware sales manager for Success Sales of Clarksburg. Several years earlier she and her husband operated a grocery-service station at Blandville.

Mrs. Polan was active in many community organizations. She had been a member of the Currydale Homemakers since the mid 30s, was an active county leader and home demonstration worker, had been a 4-H leader and in recent years, was a member of the Business and Professional Women's Club at West Union and active in the Doddridge County Emergency Squad. She was a longtime member and church school superintendent of the Middle Island Seventh Day Church at Sugar Camp.

—D.K.Z.

CORRECTION (August 1981):
Berna Beth Barber Moulton was the daughter of **Dell and Hazel Barber** (and not Gell Hazel Barber).

MUSIC NOTES

KIDS UNDER CONSTRUCTION: A Musical Blueprint for Becoming

This new musical from the Gaithers and several associates features a group of "kids" from age 7 to "about 60." The composers and arrangers have used a variety of styles made familiar by stage musicals, as well as speech choir effects and extensive dialogue, to create a work of considerable complexity. The depth of the issues explored makes one suspect that the work is intended to instruct not only children, but people of all ages: for the subject is sanctification.

The starting point is the miracles of nature and the wonders of the human body, identified as the gifts of God. This leads to a declaration of the potential for good placed within each of us, with our responsibility to develop it illustrated by the parable of the talents (Matt. 25). The Bible is then introduced as the plan by which we may develop this potential. The musical does not avoid the fact that the daily choices we face are difficult, but suggests that patience and reliance on the Holy Spirit will lead to the time in which "one of these days...I'll be what you always had in mind."

While the plan of salvation is

not the topic of this work, some will wish that it had been included. By omitting mention of the fact that only through acceptance of Christ's holiness in place of our own can we achieve good standing with God, the implication is made that development of spiritual potential will be sufficient. However, the many Christians today who place a strong emphasis on personal holiness will find "Kids Under Construction" to their liking.

Performance materials are available from: Alexandria House, Alexandria, IN 46001.□

—Arthur Rowe

SANDI PATTI: Love Overflowing (Impact Records R3742)

Today an artist's recordings do not necessarily mirror his or her performances. The two are different media, and may use differing techniques to achieve their purposes.

A casual listening to this album could give one the impression of merely another female Christian singer, after the manner of Evie Tornquist or Reba Rambo. In other words, a style neither rock nor traditional, but "middle-of-the-road": characterized by pleasant rhythms and melodies, and rather lightweight lyrics.

Having seen Sandi Patti at the Gospel Music Association convention, however, I knew her to be an outstanding new singer who brought an audience comprised mostly of her fellow artists to their feet with the power and spirituality of her rendition of Dottie Rambo's "We Shall Behold Him." In concert Miss Patti, working with taped accompaniments which never dominated her, as well as with her own piano accompaniment, shared a testimony and demonstrated vocal capacities only hinted at in her recording.

This is not to say that her recording here reviewed is inferior in any way. The production is of the finest quality, and Miss Patti's talents are shown by the credits to include not only lead and background vocals, but production assistance, composition, and arranging as well. Her technique ranges from classical (We Shall Behold Him) to contemporary popular (Down in My Heart). She also has a penchant for the big band jazz sound, amply demonstrated in "Somebody Believed." The heaviest song musically on the album is "Home of the Lord," in which Miss Patti is joined by Russell Taff, lately of the Imperials. A lyric sheet is enclosed.

It is a pleasure to recommend an artist whose recordings and live performances are both of high quality.□ —Arthur Rowe

TRIBUTE TO K.D. HURLEY (Continued from page 8)

unregenerate man, men who dwell in the frontiers of the mind, men who do not see darkness. Duane Hurley is such a man.

Luckily, Duane Hurley and Shireen saw their work through and are back with us after an absence of a few years. Their light will so shine as to inspire those who see it. Whatever be the vicissitudes of the future Duane Hurley will give everyone he meets confidence by his example. Always Duane will be positive in philosophy, helpful to human beings, and confident of the future. He will follow all his days the pattern of Goethe whose last words were: "More light!"□

—This tribute to Dr. K. D. Hurley was a part of the appreciation program sponsored by the General Council at the recent session of the General Conference in Salem. Mrs. Dorothy Upton Davis is a resident of Salem, WV, where she is noted for her work in West Virginia history.

STRENGTH IN THE FAITH

(Continued from page 7)

the courage to proclaim." That is why I continue to recommend that we as a people enter into a time of serious re-study of the Biblical basis for our polity and beliefs.

B. Within some areas of our organizational structure and procedures there are potential strengths still not developed to the fullest extent possible, it seems to me. For example, we are beginning to overcome many of the handicaps of "disjointed operation" by intra-agency employment of executives to meet overall denominational personnel needs; by assigning completely to the General Conference Trustees such responsibilities as building and equipment maintenance, office supplies, and utilities at denominational headquarters, so billing and paying can be handled by the one agency rather than having to engage in multiple billing, bookkeeping, and check writing operations; and by delegating all printing for the denomination to the Tract Society through the Publishing House, so one billing and collecting system for that part of our operation can suffice for the entire denomination. Additional moves of similar kinds will enhance operational efficiency and effectiveness, I am confident.

We are also contemplating the acquisition of a headquarters building which will ultimately accommodate all executives. Thus, the advantages of daily interaction among denominational leaders will be possible while at the same time maintaining the important grass roots participation of board members in the various established locations.

C. Other areas which still need attention, in order to bring our denomination into a position to take full advantage of current opportunities, are the following:

- (1) Strengthen the associations so they will all become strong components of denominational life and organization, perhaps holding major meetings every other year to fill the gap between proposed biennial meetings of General Conference;
- (2) Effectively increase stewardship as an "attitude of life" among all our people so more adequate support will become available for pastoral and other salaries, and resources will be more fully available for missionary and other outreach activities;
- (3) Continue to recruit, train, and fully support capable and dynamic pastoral leadership; and
- (4) Encourage the General Council, in keeping with the vote of Conference in activating the Council, to take the initiative in becoming the truly planning, coordinating and administrative body for Seventh Day Baptists, utilizing to the fullest extent the management skills of the executive secretary.

The spirit among the members of the General

Council is excellent; they are diligently handling budget analysis and preparation; refinements are consistently being made in the procedures, and suggested bylaw changes will further enhance the effectiveness of the Council.

Conclusion

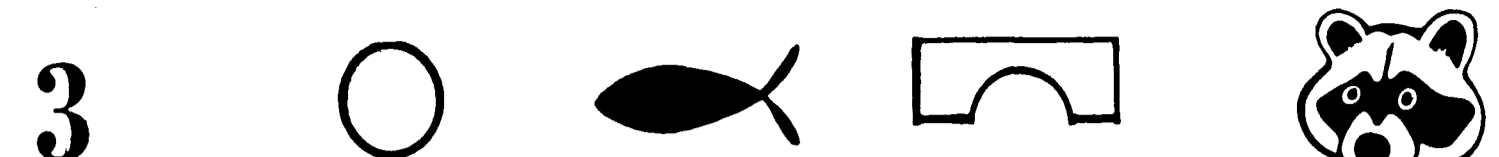
Seventh Day Baptists are set to grow, doubling — and more — in the decade of the 80's. Churches that grow think growth, plan for growth and pray for growth. Full commitment on the part of every member of every church, in response to the Great Commission, is what is required.

My feeling is that Commitment to Growth and Decision to Discipleship are strong plus factors as we contemplate growth for our denomination. A great deal of progress has been — and is being — made as Seventh Day Baptists strive to answer fully God's call to service. The main elements needed for continued progress, in my opinion, are the following: unified action — denominational leaders and the people working together through agreed upon organizational patterns; strong financial backing — with steady support through Our World Mission; and full spiritual commitment — in response to the Great Commission.





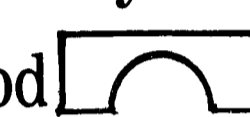



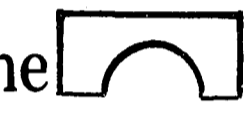

In my Recorder articles, I have reviewed some of the accomplishments during my tenure as Executive Secretary. But I want to highlight again the fact that it has been a team operation, decisions being made by consensus and the achievements resulting from universal participation. I admire and am grateful for the efforts of my colleagues. I appreciate very much the faithful and effective service of my Executive Assistant and secretaries. I pray God's richest blessings upon Dale Thorngate as he assumes his leadership role and upon all the members of the team who will be working with him in the years to come.

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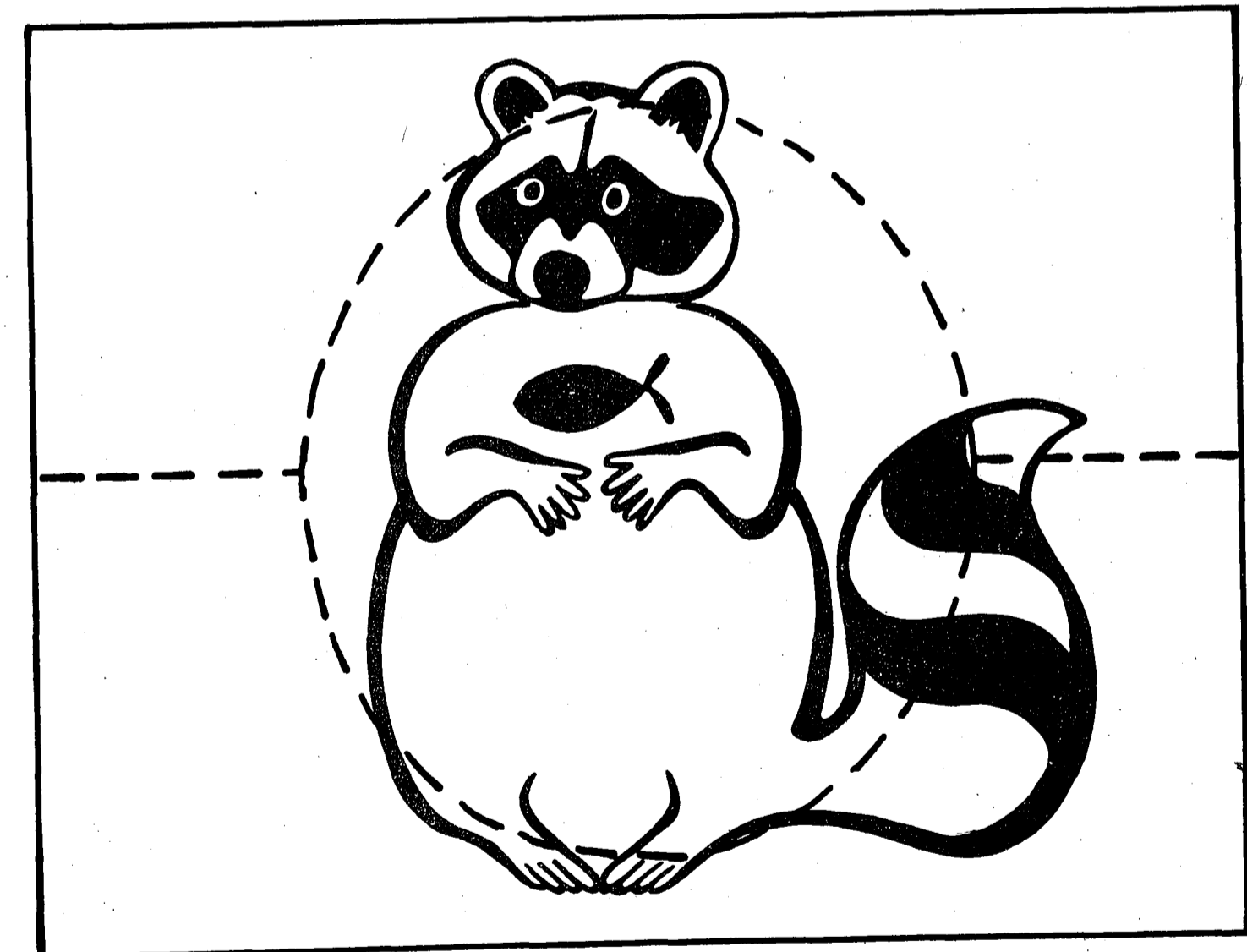
children's
page



THREE CIRCLE JESUS PUZZLE RACCO RACCOON

Hello,
I am Racco Raccoon. I am 3 years old.
I am learning a BIG word. It is rec-on-cil-i-a-tion. Reconciliation means to be made good again. I have made a Reconciliation . The  has 3 pieces. Do you see that only with the  showing  in me makes it a good . Ask your parents to please: 1. Trace the  on another piece of paper. 2. Let you color the . Cut the  on the dotted lines. 4. Let you put the  back together. Remember only the love of  makes us all together and good.

See you next month,



Note to the parents:
This year's Conference theme is "Ministry of Reconciliation." Even little boys and girls who see Jesus' love in their homes can share this love with others. How many little ministers do you know? □

-LVHC

BWA GENERAL COUNCIL MEETS IN SAN JUAN

SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO—“These have been the best Commission sessions I’ve ever attended,” said one of the delegates who has been attending the General Council meetings of the Baptist World Alliance for many years. “There is a potential here that gives me a tremendous sense of pride of being a Baptist.”

His view is shared by many of the 260 Baptist leaders who attended the General Council sessions of the Baptist World Alliance in San Juan, Puerto Rico, June 27-July 3. The delegates and guests came from 36 countries; such countries as Bangladesh, Burma, Cuba, El Salvador, Kenya and the Soviet union were represented, and made for an interesting mixture.

Preceding the Council sessions the executive staff of the Alliance convened for two days, discussing and planning the business of this worldwide organization that has its headquarters in Washington, DC, USA.

On Saturday, June 27, various meetings were held in preparation for the General Council sessions which started on June 30. These meetings included the International Missions Secretaries, the Evangelism and Education Committee and the executive committee of the BWA Men’s Work and the Women’s Department, respectively.

The Baptist World Alliance is composed of four divisions: Communications, Evangelism and Education, Relief and Development and Study and Research. Meetings of these divisions made up the

schedule on Monday and Tuesday.

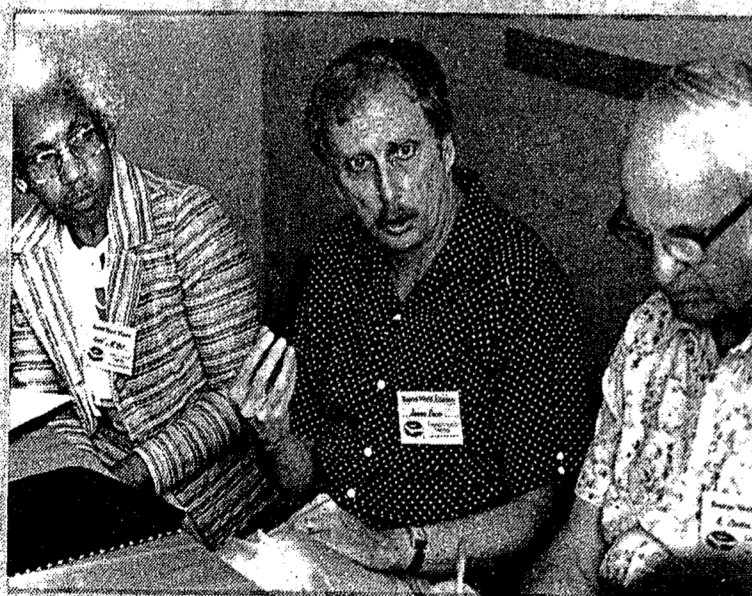
The General Council meetings, extending over four days, were marked by a full agenda. Still they made room for an evening rally, open to the public, on July 1 at First Baptist Church, Carolina, PR. Music by a Puerto Rican group of young people inspired all worshippers and gave a good sample of the high quality of spiritual education and zeal offered by Baptist churches in Puerto Rico.

Dr. S.T. Ola Akande from the Nigerian Baptist Convention, Ibadan, Nigeria, was the speaker at the rally. The service was interpreted into Spanish and broadcast live to a large audience in Puerto Rico.

The elections made the Rev. Archie Goldie from Canada the new BWA associate secretary for Relief and Development. That freed Dr. Denton Lotz, who previously held the position, to become Director of the Youth Department, while also serving as associate secretary for Evangelism and Education.

Lotz will be assisted in the Youth Department by Samson Mathanagai, a young Baptist from Kenya, who was voted into the position of Field Assistant. Dr. Azariah McKenzie, of Jamaica, was elected regional secretary of the Caribbean Baptist Fellowship.

On July 3, when most of the participants started returning to their respective Baptist unions and countries, there was an overwhelming



One of the functions of the Executive Secretary is to represent SDB's at interchurch meetings. Dr. Hurley recently attended the Baptist World Alliance General Council session in San Juan. He is pictured here with James Dunn and Pearl McNeil of the BWA.

feeling of gratitude and praise to God for the successful Council, Committee and Commission sessions.

Next year's meetings will be held in July in Nairobi, Kenya. □

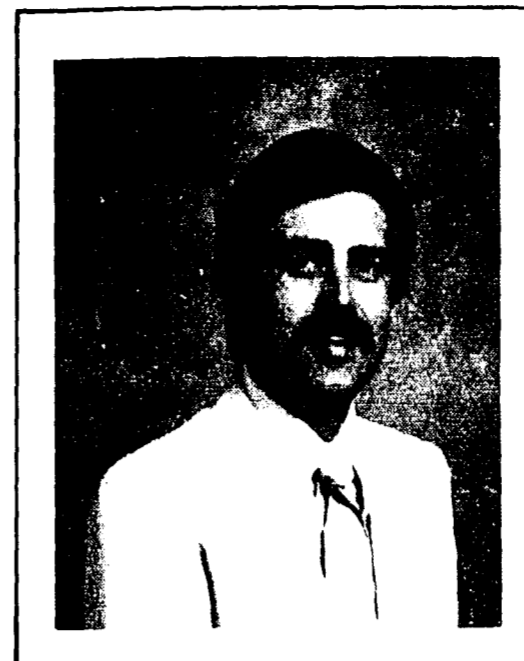
“SAVE THE FAMILY” NAE THRUST IN '82

WHEATON, IL—Concern over the disintegration of the American home has caused the National Association of Evangelicals (NAE) to announce a nationwide “Save the Family” campaign. The initial thrust will begin at the 1982 NAE Convention, March 1-4, in Arlington Heights, Illinois; but the campaign will precede the convention and continue to make positive contributions long after the convention concludes.

This fall, a national mail and advertising campaign will be launched to raise the sensitivity of concerned Americans to the crisis facing the family. NAE's constituency will be asked to respond to a carefully prepared public opinion survey with the results providing essential direction to campaign coordinators for the months ahead.

Concerning the convention itself, speakers for the main sessions are being selected for their expertise in understanding the family and their adherence to scriptural principles. Of special interest will be the select blue-ribbon task force to be announced at the close of the convention. This working committee will point to areas related to family need and concern in an effort to assist evangelical churches respond to major issues in an informed and responsible way.

Following the convention, Christians will be called upon to join NAE in its World Day of Prayer, March 5, which will ask participants to pray and reflect on the conditions of not only individual families but also the “family of believers,” the church. A 16-page, two-color World Day of Prayer worship guide is being prepared to help individuals and congregations as they participate in this day of reflection. □



EDITORIAL

For many it was a nostalgic homecoming — back to the green hills of West Virginia, back to roots or college days past. People change, the college is different, the roads are better - but the hills are timeless in their verdant beauty. And so several hundred Seventh Day Baptists, from coast to coast, came to the hills to renew their strength, to renew friendships, to seek spiritual renewal and to conduct the business of the 169th annual Conference.

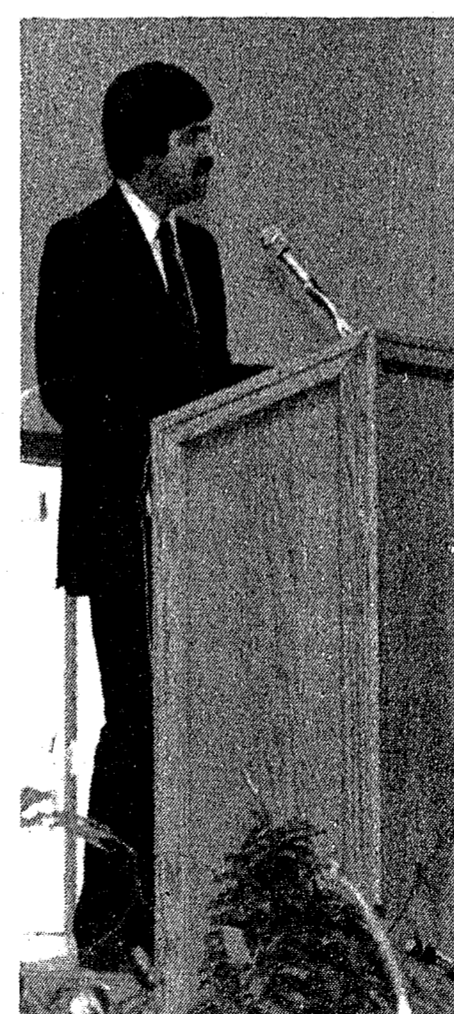
On Sunday evening our beloved Senator Jennings Randolph reminded us that this was the twelfth time Conference has met in Salem, the last being in 1974. Following the remarks of the Senator the Rev. Gabriel Bejjani, pastor of the church in Stanton, CA, spoke on the Conference theme of *Growing with God*. He stressed that the Lord wants us to grow as individuals and as a denomination. The Sunday evening service seemed to set the tone for the week.

We appreciated the timely and challenging messages each evening as well as the special times devoted to Bible study. Many of these messages and studies will be shared through the pages of the *Sabbath Recorder*. Once again we were reminded of how the Lord has blessed us as a people with the gift of music. The Conference choir was under the able direction of Miss Lois Wells and there was quite a variety of music and musicians during the week.

Conference is also business and this year there were some very controversial items for consideration by the delegates. Without question the most debated issue was the statement on abortion. The statement came to the floor in much different form from the one submitted to the churches for study during the year. Debate at times was heated and emotional, in fact a special business session was scheduled following an evening service to allow more time for debate. A roll call vote of the churches led to adoption of the statement, though not without considerable opposition.

The second item which was controversial was the recommendation of the General Council for a relocation of the offices in Plainfield, New Jersey, to a new site in Janesville, Wisconsin. When the floor was open to debate on the issue it appeared that there was considerable opposition. However when the vote was taken, by secret ballot of the delegates, it was evident there was a clear mandate for relocation. The vote to move was 235 to 67 in opposition. Those offices affected by the relocation are: General Conference, Historical Society, Memorial Fund, Council on Ministry and the American Sabbath Tract Society.

(Continued on page 19)



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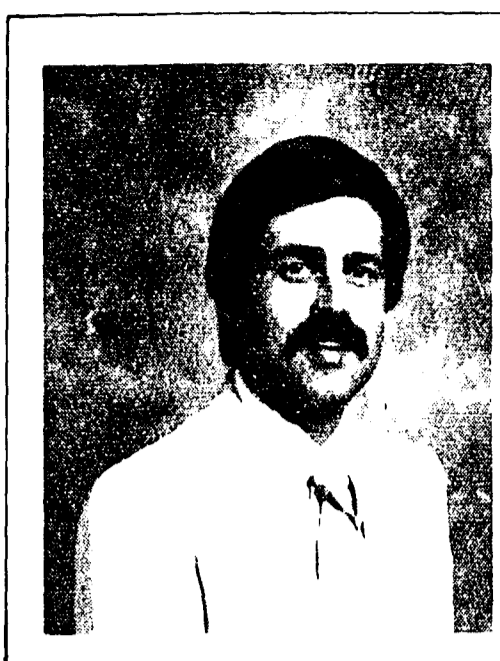
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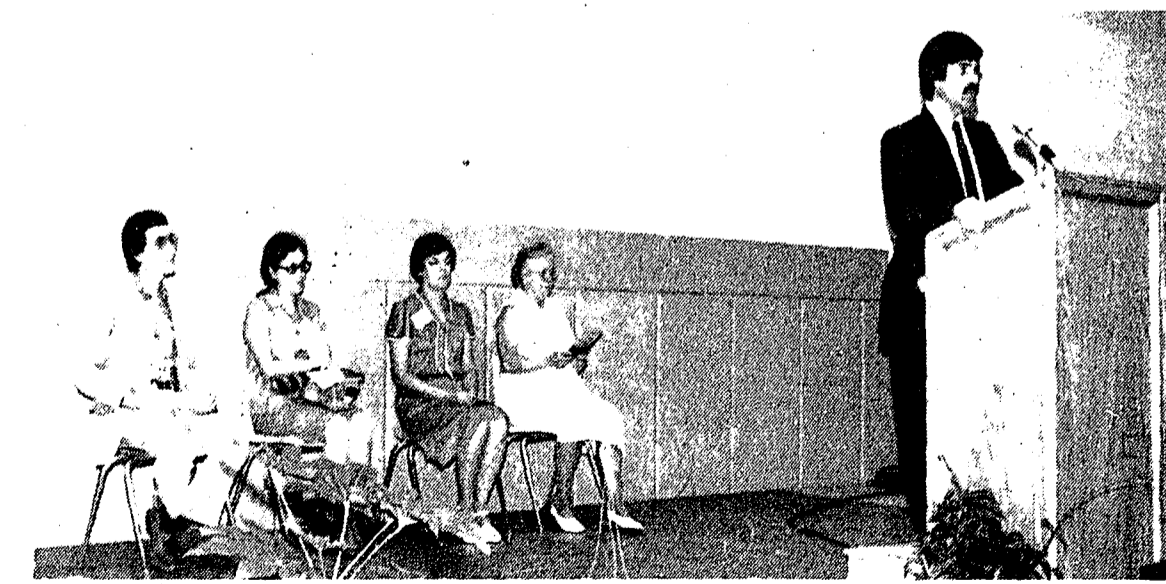
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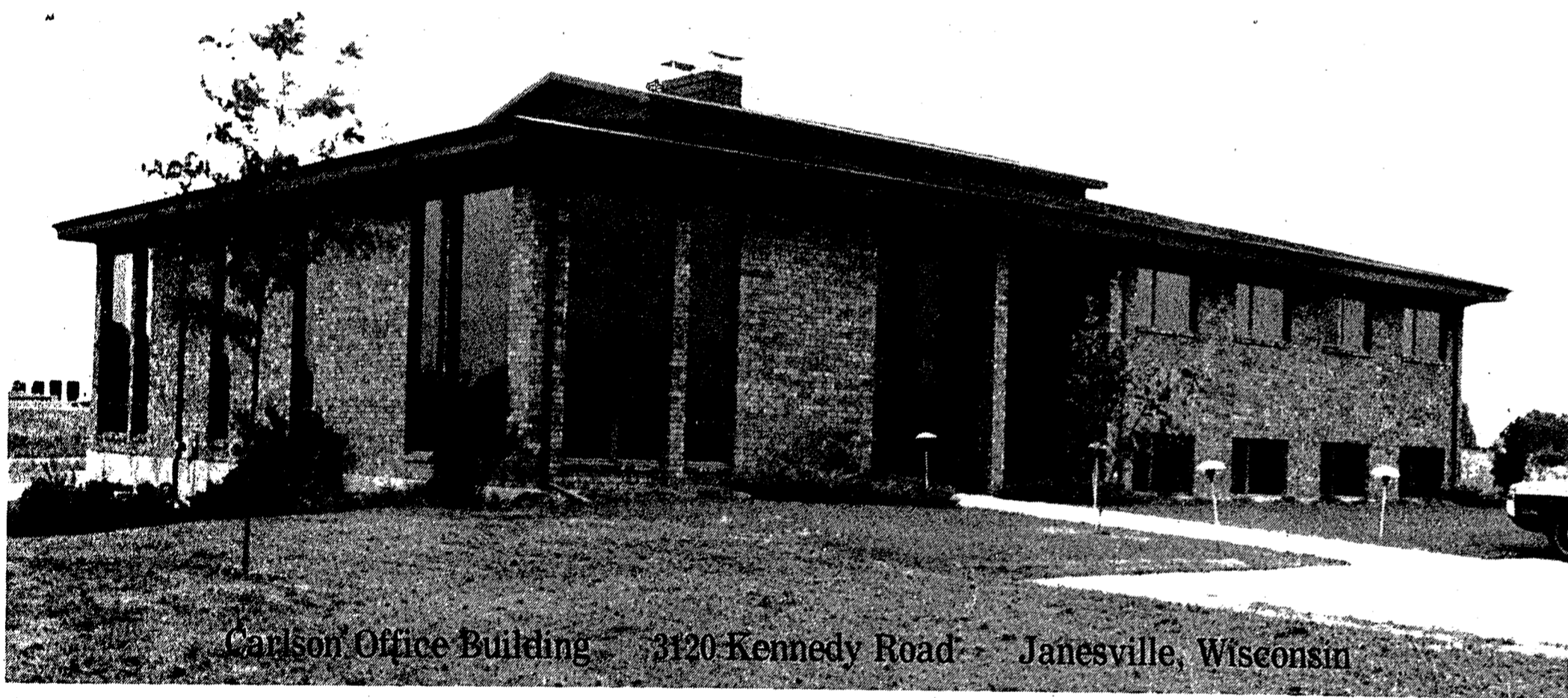


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