

Photo Contest

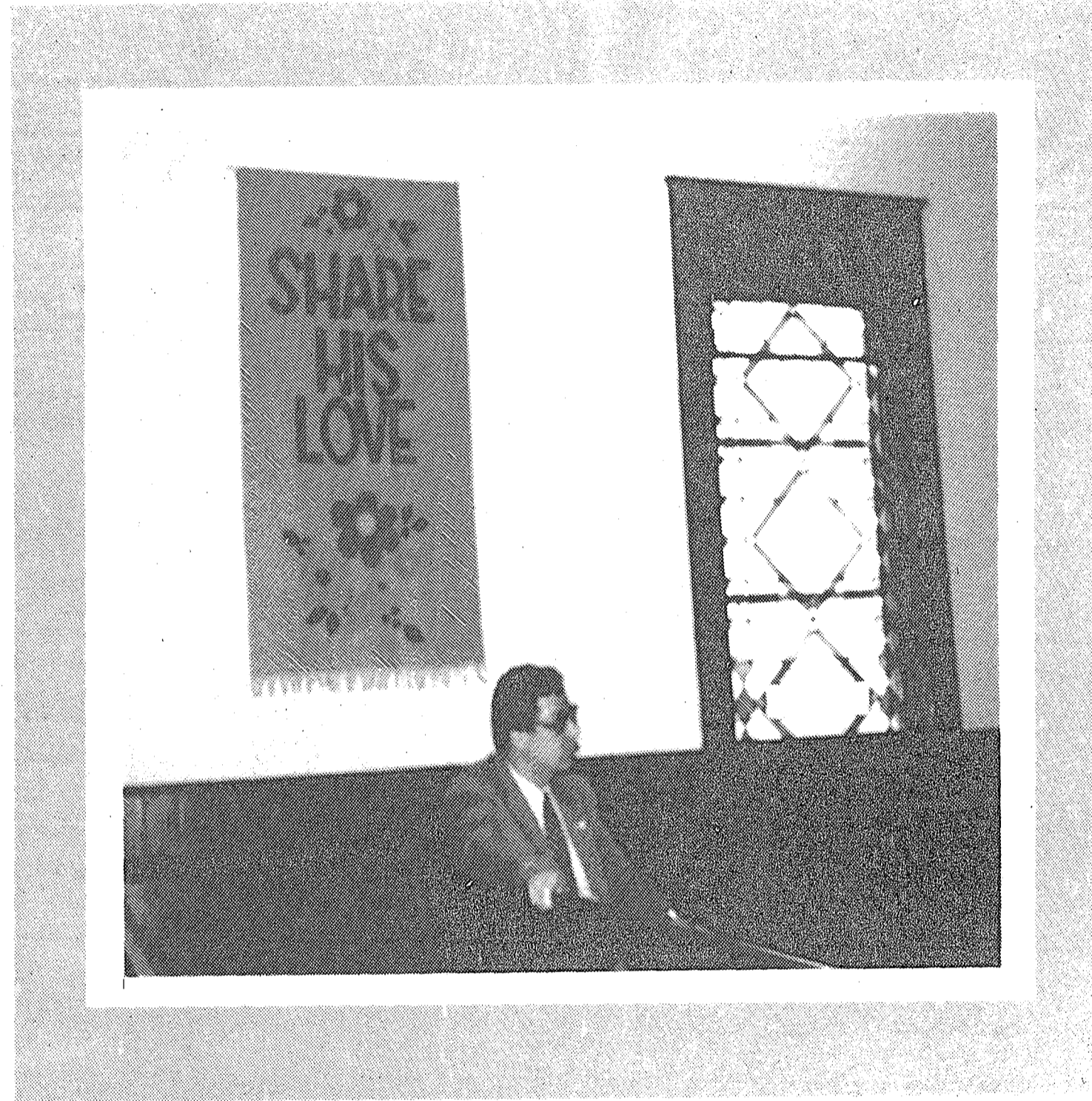
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Camp and Fellowship Activities

Age Groups
12-16
17-22

Black & White prints
Identify and mail
Deadline: December 31
See your Pastor for Entry Forms



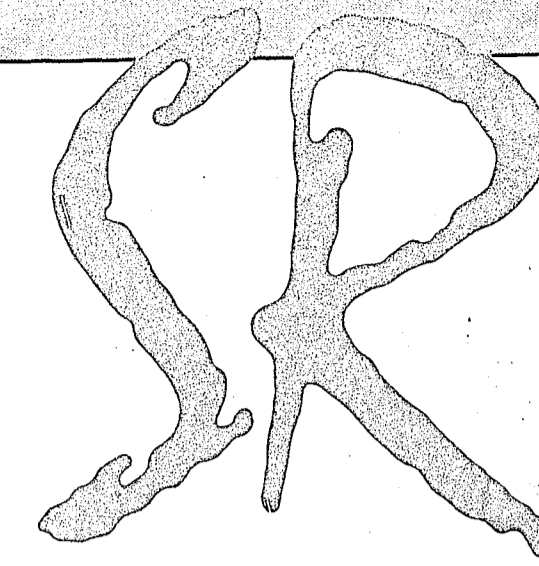
Age Groups
12-16
17-22

Religious Objects

Prizes: Four (by age group in each category)
First: Picture in Calendar and \$35.00 for Pre-Con or General Conference.
Second: Picture in Calendar and \$20.00 for Pre-Con or General Conference.
Send to: Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education
15 South Main Street
Alfred, NY 14802

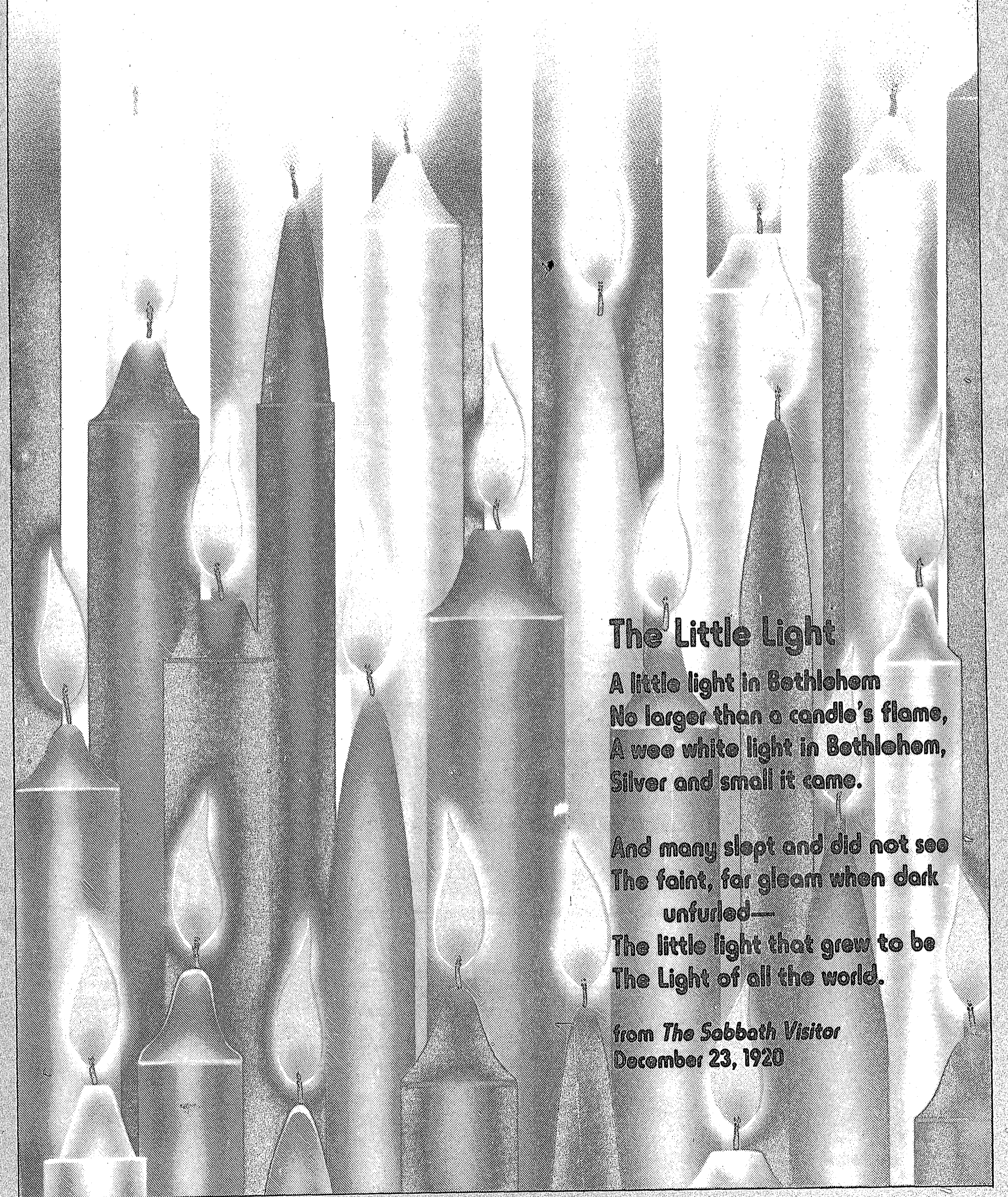
The Seventh Day Baptist

Sabbath



December 1985

Recorder



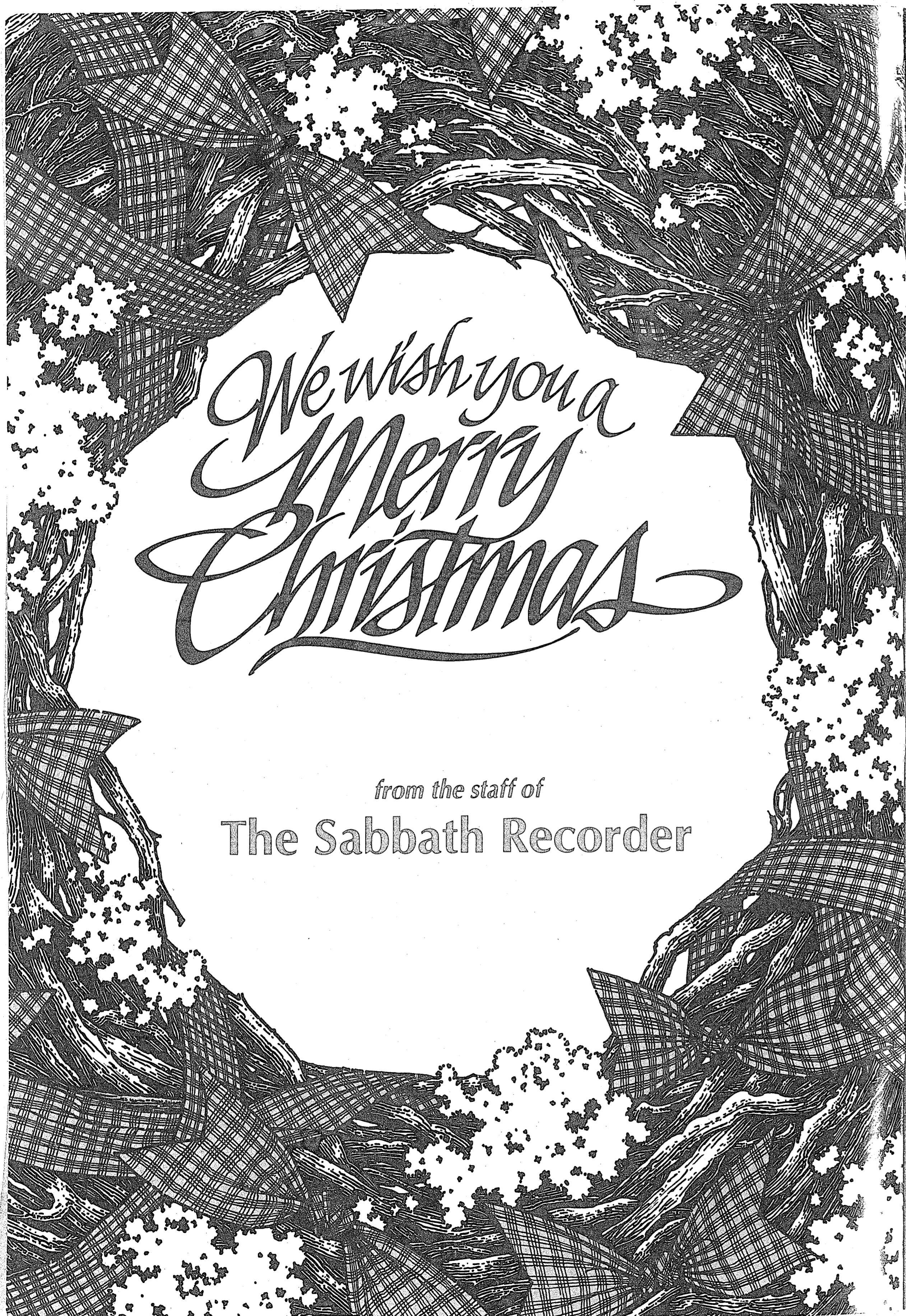
The Little Light

A little light in Bethlehem
No larger than a candle's flame,
A wee white light in Bethlehem,
Silver and small it came.

And many slept and did not see
The faint, far gleam when dark
unfurled—

The little light that grew to be
The Light of all the world.

from *The Sabbath Visitor*
December 23, 1920



We wish you a
**Merry
Christmas**

from the staff of
The Sabbath Recorder

The Sabbath Recorder



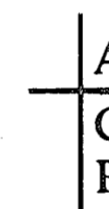
December 1985
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WRITERS: Please type manuscripts double spaced. Only manuscripts that include a stamped, addressed envelope can be returned. Unsolicited manuscripts are welcomed; however, they will be considered on a **space available** basis. No remuneration is given for any article that appears in this publication. Paid advertising is not accepted.

December 1985

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Excerpts from *Lead-Line*, Janet Thorngate, editor

From *Lead-Line*,
January 1985

New print shop does first four-color run

The reprint of *God's Holy Day*, the popular booklet of "Seven Studies on the Sabbath Truth," requires the first four-color run done on the new 1850 Multilith press since the print shop opened at the SDB Center in Janesville last July. Printer Dale Wheeler (pictured, left) explains that that means four times through the press to create the colorful cover.

Other items printed since Wheeler began working part-time as printer include *The Helping Hand*, 1984 Yearbook, *The Sabbath Visitor*, *Missionary Reporter*, *Lead-Line*, board and agency annual reports, *Missions*, "Year of Extension" brochures and calendars, and the new *Audio-Visual Catalog* in addition to every-member letters, in-house forms, letterhead, etc.

The print shop is located in the basement of the new Center. Some of the equipment was brought from New Jersey; some has been purchased with money from the sale of the big Heidelberg Cord press. The major change, Scott Smith notes, is that all the equipment is smaller, gauged for smaller runs.

Typesetting for all printing jobs, including *The Sabbath Recorder*, is done on the new business computer which is interfaced with the Compuwriter 4A (the typesetter brought from New Jersey).

Because of the size of *The Sabbath Recorder* monthly run, it is more efficient to have it printed commercially after paste-up at the Center. It is collated and mailed from the printing location in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin. Collating and mailing of other materials is done at the Center, often with the assistance of many volunteers from area churches.

Equipment brought from New Jersey includes the Baumfolder, Challenge paper drill, light table, Bostitch stitcher, and 16-station collator. Purchased since the move are the 1850 Multilith press, NuArc mercury vapor plate burner, Agfa-Gavart contact plate maker, and Chandler & Price paper cutter. The darkroom (opened this month) contains a Kenro vertical camera (purchased used) and an Agfa-Gavart photo-mechanical transfer (PMT) processor. SR

From *Lead-Line*,
February 1985

Butler called to Madison

Kevin Butler has accepted the call to be pastor of the new church in Madison, Wisconsin, upon graduation from seminary in June. Originally from Verona, New York, he and his wife Janet and their daughters Jennifer and Crystal have lived in Ohio during his involvement in the Center on Ministry program. Butler has been summer assistant in Verona and student associate

pastor in Columbus while attending the Methodist Theological School in Ohio (METHESCO). Other work experience includes retail management and audio-visual services. His bachelor's degree is in communications from Houghton College, New York, (1979). The Madison call is in cooperation with the Missionary Society (Extension Pastor Program through OWM) and the North Central Association. SR

Houston church on its own

Rev. Robert Babcock went to Houston, Texas as the first extension pastor in the RON (Reach Out Now) program in 1976. The church was officially organized the next year and moved from extension to

missionary pastor status in 1979. The church is taking increasing responsibility for pastoral support. Now they are self-supporting, freeing the OWM funds for work in new places. SR

From *Lead-Line*,
February 1985

Three receive M.Div. degrees

Three young men who have participated in the Center on Ministry program will receive Master of Divinity degrees this spring: Everett Dickinson and Kevin Butler, and Leon Wheeler, who is pastor of the church in Ashaway, Rhode Island (First Hopkinton) and will receive his degree from Central Baptist Seminary in Kansas City.

COM students receive financial assistance from the denomination while they attend seminary, take Summer Institute courses in SDB distinctives and participate in student retreats. This program, directed by Dean Paul Green, is supported by OWM SR

From *Lead-Line*
February 1985

Milton church new addition in use

On February 16, 1985, the Milton, Wisconsin, church entertained friends at an open house in the new educational wing. Dedication services in November included celebration of 50 years in the main part of the building. The new wing houses library,

chapel, 5 classrooms, and restrooms on the main floor, extension of the basement-level fellowship hall, and elevator for handicapped access to the whole building. SR

From *Lead-Line*
March 1985

Council concerned with 1986

As always at its mid-year meeting, General Council's major concern at the four-day February session was the plans for 1986, including the budget to be presented to Conference in August 1985. Before dealing with the mechanics of the budget, however, the members spent an encouraging time envisioning Seventh Day Baptist opportunities for service now and in the future.

The Council voted to recommend to General Conference a 1986 budget of

\$710,740 (\$432,765 from current giving). While the total budget figure reflects a slight reduction for 1986, the required current giving is 1.3% above that for 1985. The proposed budget includes a 4% increase in staff salaries (1st in two years) but no increase in executive salaries. The proposal includes the stipulation, however, that if the 1985 budget is raised in full, the 1986 budget could be increased to provide executive salary raises. The level for executive salaries was set in 1980 and has

From *Lead-Line*
April 1985

not been changed since. The salary levels represented the only difference between the budget presented to the Council by the Coordinating Leadership Team and that finally approved by the non-salaried and elected members of Council.

In an effort to assist with the budget promotion, the elected members of the

council committed themselves to making personal contacts with each of the churches to help raise consciousness toward Our World Mission. They also called for a cash flow study out of concern for payment of salaries and benefits for General Conference employees in the last three months of the year. **SR**

From Lead-Line
May 1985

Ministers' Conference well attended and productive

Sixty-four people attended the biennial SDB Ministers' Conference, April 17-22, in Shiloh, New Jersey. "I was impressed and overjoyed with the spirit of the Shiloh meeting," said Rev. Herbert Saunders, chairman of the Faith and Order Committee which conducted the study sessions on the SDB Statement of Belief.

Dean Paul Green, Director, expressed "grateful appreciation to the Shiloh church people who so ably fed, housed and hosted the large group." About half were active pastors; others included retired ministers, students, and spouses. The program included Bible studies, worship, a prayer seminar, variety show, and volleyball! **SR**

From Lead-Line
May 1985

Video cassette on SDBs to be produced

A short, professionally produced video-cassette on Seventh Day Baptists will be available later this year. The 10-15 minute tape, also to be available as a 16mm film, is being produced by Quadrus Media ministry of Rockford, Illinois.

The Tract Board at its May 5, 1985,

meeting authorized Audio Visual Chairman Laurence Burdick to proceed with the project since the Memorial Board approved a \$25,000 grant request for its production. General Council had earlier asked the Tract Board to explore options for such an informational and promotional program. **SR**

From Lead-Line
May 1985

Henrys returning

Rev. Rodney Henry and his family return from their Philippines mission work on May 22, 1985. Henry will be meeting with denominational and church leaders in

Janesville, Wisconsin, Westerly, Rhode Island and Florida in June to consider his future areas of service. **SR**

From Lead-Line
June 1985

Shoffner going to Tucson

Rev. William E. Shoffner has accepted the call to be full-time extension pastor of the new fellowship in Tucson, Arizona, beginning in August. Shoffner served for over six years as pastor of the church in Memphis, Tennessee, beginning as

extension pastor in January 1979, before the church was officially organized. The Tucson fellowship, a branch of the Denver, Colorado, church began meeting last October with support from Mid-Continent and Pacific Coast Associations. **SR**

Twelve SCSC workers in training for projects in six states

Twelve Summer Christian Service Corps (SCSC) workers leave June 24, 1985, for six project sites following training at Camp Paul Hummel in Boulder, Colorado. The five boys and seven girls, representing 11 churches in eight states, will work in churches in Connecticut, New Jersey, Ohio, Texas, Colorado, and California, then regroup for evaluation in Arkansas before General Conference.

Workers, projects and directors are (1) Steve Osborn and Robert Carmichael to Boulder, Colorado, with Madeline Fitz Randolph; (2) Bill Shoffner and Howard Green to Columbus, Ohio, with Perry Cain; (3) Kerith Camenga and Kim Fleming to Raritan Valley, New Jersey, with Kenneth Burdick; (4) Melissa Cutsforth and Esther

Wheeler to Riverside, California, with Vicki Burdick; (5) Te-Ann Andries and Virginia Rosa to Houston, Texas, with Bob Babcock; (6) Eric Davis and Sonja Severance to Waterford, Connecticut, with Mary Jo Johnson.

Training staff includes Gerry VanDyke, coordinator; Charles Graffius, teacher; Doreen Sanford, music and crafts; Bill Shobe, teacher; Paul Green COM Dean; and Dorothea Shettel, Women's Board President. SCSC chairman is Chris Davis; business manager Pat Williams; transportation, Gretchen Zwiebel.

SCSC transportation and training costs are paid with contributions. Send through Our World Mission designated for SCSC. **SR**

Dallas-Ft. Worth disbands

The Dallas-Ft. Worth, Texas, SDB Church has notified the General Council of its disbanding. The church, which was organized in 1976, has ranged in membership from 12 to five and has functioned primarily with lay leadership. Assets have been distributed to the Wichita

Falls SDB Church, Fouke Academy, Sunshine Mountain Children's Home, Southwestern Association, and OWM (Extension Pastor Program). Most of the members will join the Wichita Falls, Texas, church. **SR**

Delegates to vote on merger

Delegates to General Conference in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, (August 5-9) will vote on merger of the General Conference (New Jersey corporation) into the Wisconsin corporation (a routine legal procedure) and on bylaws for the Wisconsin corporation, which will be presented by the General Council. A

required legal notice of the merger vote was sent to each Seventh Day Baptist in an every-member mailing this month. Bylaw changes to be presented include merger of the Tract Society into the Conference, as approved in principle by the Conference in session in 1984 and the Tract Society in 1983 and 1984. **SR**

From Lead-Line
June 1985

From Lead-Line
June 1985

From Lead-Line
July 1985

From Lead-Line
July 1985

SDBs attend Baptist World Congress

More than 20 people represented SDBs at the Baptist World Congress in Los Angeles, July 2-7, 1985. The Heralds quartet, directed by James A. Ayars, represented SDBs on the program and shared our booth. "The Heralds were a big hit among the over 11,000 delegates," Thorngate reports. "Their videotape brought hundreds of people to our well-situated booth where many were eager to pick up our literature and talk about SDBs

and the Sabbath." SDBs attending included Alefa Lozani (Malawi), Dorothy d'Alpuget (Australia), Leon Lawton, Dale Thorngate and Dorothea Shettel (USA Conf.), Pastors Duane Davis and Steve Crouch, K.D. and Shireen Hurley (W. VA.), Lelia Bishop (Wash., D.C.), returning Philippine Missionaries Rod and Camille Henry, and others from the Los Angeles church including Shiñsei Hokama and Oscar Godoy. SR

From Lead-Line
September 1985

Johnson's challenge: "Prepare Ye The Way"

Rev. Russell G. Johnson, new president of the General Conference, observed in his address to the delegates that Seventh Day Baptists are experiencing renewal and a new vision. "Once again the message of Isaiah is before God's people, and Seventh Day Baptists are taking up the cry. They

are trimming their lives, and brightening their lamps, and are seeking the oil of the Spirit's anointing, and are echoing the cry, 'Prepare ye the way.' Theme scripture for the 1986 sessions to be held August 10-16 in Worcester, Massachusetts, is John 1:1-28. SR

From Lead-Line
September 1985

Van Dyke, Keown join Council

Gerri Van Dyke, as president-elect, and Bernard Keown were elected to the General Council at August's Conference sessions in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. Van Dyke, a member of the Denver, Colorado, church, is best known to SDBs as director of the Summer Christian Service Corps (SCSC). Keown, once an SCSC worker, is

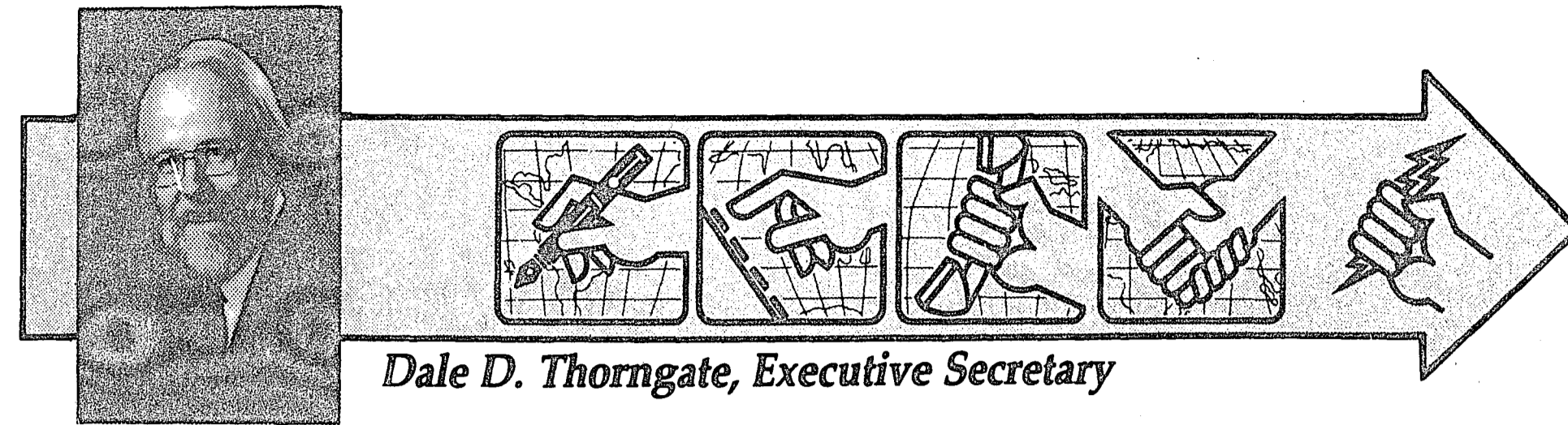
a medical doctor and a member of the North Loup, Nebraska, church. They replace Norman Burdick and Leland Davis who have completed three-year terms. Russell Johnson was elected chairman of the 1986 Council. Fred Ayars of Marlboro, New Jersey will replace Johnson on the Council on Ministry. SR

From Lead-Line
October 1985

Comacho visits Mid-Continent from Mexico

Pastor Elias Comacho, executive of our sister conference in Mexico, reported at Mid-Continent Association sessions in Denver, Colorado, October 4-6, that despite discouragements and serious setbacks to the work in the past few years, 400 people attended the Mexico Conference sessions last spring. He continues his teaching and preaching ministry and expresses energetic faith and hope for the future. The Mid-Continent Association continues to assist with equipment and supplies for his printing of educational and Sabbath School materials for use in the churches and in the

school for training teachers and ministers in Tampico. They explored other ways of sharing such as exchanging letters of Christian greeting and encouragement between American and Mexican SDBs. All rejoiced with Comacho as he told the dramatic story of finding that his son and daughter, both of whom work in one of the hospitals destroyed in the Mexico City earthquake, were called elsewhere to work that day and thus were safe, as were his grandchildren and other friends whose homes were destroyed. SR



Dale D. Thorngate, Executive Secretary

Reaching out in love

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:19-20)

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

"A new commandment I give you: Love one another, as I have loved you, so you must love one another. All men will know that you are my disciples if you love one another." (John 13:34-35)

The Great Commission

In this fifth year of the Decade of Discipleship our emphasis has been on Extension. Our president Calvin Babcock has challenged us anew with the "Great Commission." The Missionary Society has asked each church to start a new outreach effort. I have had the opportunity to preach on this subject in several of our churches across the country. As I studied the Commission I discovered that it was recorded differently by the different Gospel writers.

Luke's emphasis was on the preparation and the power of the Holy Spirit that enabled each disciple to be able to go, to teach, and to baptize. The apostle John emphasized the power of Love and its importance in the life of each disciple before their witness could be effective. All of these aspects of the Great Commission are important and necessary if we are to be effective in our ability to witness to and share our faith in Jesus Christ.

Year's highlights. As I review the year from last conference to this one, I see the measurable results of our efforts:

- a continuing annual net increase in total membership which is gradually reversing the trend of several decades of decline.
- new groups meeting for worship, fellowship, and outreach in four locations (Tucson, Arizona; Stone Mountain, Georgia; Okeechobee, Florida; and Santa Barbara, California)
- four ministers ordained (Rev. Everett

Dickinson; Rev. Donald Chroniger, Rev. Charlotte Chroniger, and Rev. William Sharon)

—three new seminary graduates (Kevin Butler, Everett Dickinson, and Leon Wheeler)

—extension pastors placed in three young, growing urban churches (San Diego, California; Madison, Wisconsin; and Tucson, Arizona)

All aspects of the Great Commission are important and necessary if we are to be effective in our ability to witness to and share our faith in Jesus Christ.

- 60 ministers gathered to spend five days in serious, productive discussion of our statement of faith as Sabbath keeping Baptist Christians in the 20th century
- four of our established churches involved in expansion or relocation of facilities to provide for growth (Daytona Beach, Florida; Milton, Wisconsin; Denver, Colorado; and Riverside, California)—(purchase of new church building in Centralia, Washington)
- our Philippine missionary family returning, their training mission accomplished and the work growing

Please note that this report from the Executive Secretary was presented at Conference 1985 and covers the period of time from Conference 1984 until Conference 1985.

By the end of 1984 the new denominational center building was completely paid for.

- the new work of the Los Angeles church with Filipino-Americans highlights the multicultural aspect of our expanding opportunities
- and around the globe Seventh Day Baptists, 50,000 of us, planning together for the 20th anniversary of the SDB World Federation and its third meeting of representatives from conferences around the world.

Relocation

Debt retired. By the end of 1984 the new denominational center building was completely paid for. With the generous giving of our people and the support of the boards and agencies that use the Center, we were able to fully pay for the building within three years from the time Conference made the decision to move from Plainfield, New Jersey, to Janesville, Wisconsin.

Conference re-incorporated. Now that we are in Wisconsin it is necessary to complete the legal action to make the move complete. At this conference delegates will have to vote to merge the New Jersey corporation into the Wisconsin corporation. This will require two votes, one as a member of the New Jersey corporation and one as a member of the Wisconsin Corporation.

Then we will need to review and act upon the proposed bylaws as recommended by the General Council. There are very few major changes, mostly just to make them appropriate for the new corporation.

Other agencies re-incorporate. Each of the separately incorporated agencies that have offices in Wisconsin are in various stages of re-incorporation. The American Sabbath Tract Society is proposing to merge with the General Conference. They have voted to merge; Conference delegates will be asked to vote to receive them as part of the General Conference. The Historical Society has their new corporation established in Wisconsin and plans to merge their New

Jersey corporation into their Wisconsin corporation at their 1986 annual meeting. The Memorial Fund Trustees have incorporated in Wisconsin also and plan to merge their New Jersey corporation into their Wisconsin corporation at their October 1985 annual meeting.

Office management

Yearbook. Praise the Lord the 1984 *Yearbook* was published in 1984 and sent to all who requested it. In addition to that, in April 1985 we sent to each church an abbreviated update of the directory of ministers and churches. We will review this procedure in two years to see if it is helpful and if we should continue it.

Staff changes. The personnel turnover at the Center in Janesville has had quite an impact on the work and the way we do it. Two full-time and one half-time member of the computer and secretarial staff are leaving us. We are replacing them with one full-time and three half-time people with no change in budgetary support required for the work.

Since April 15 when Joel Osborn terminated his part-time work with us, each of the staff positions has been reviewed, analyzed and changed to fit current needs. Kathryn Carr, a computer operator-bookkeeper from Janesville, has been employed to replace Joel and do part of Jean Jorgensen's work. Doneta Osborn leaves us at the end of July. Roselyn Geske has been hired half-time to work in the mail room and coordinate volunteer services. Jill Groelle, who is the *Yearbook* editor and has been working part-time for the *Sabbath Recorder* editor, will begin working in the General Conference office half-time as secretary and assistant to Ethel Dickinson. We are still looking for a half-time financial secretary to work with Ivan FitzRandolph after Jean leaves this month.

Volunteers. On May 19 the Center staff held a reception to say thank you to over 60 people from the Milton and Albion churches who worked last year as volunteers. They are one of the most important assets to our work as they assist in many tasks and host those who attend meetings at the Center. There is no way to adequately thank them.

The Sabbath Recorder

Communications and public relations

Lead-Line continues to be an important communications link with SDB leadership. Four-hundred and fifty copies go monthly to pastors, association presidents, conference officers, board and agency presidents, ministerial students, etc. We feel that if our people are better informed they will be able to do a better job. This is our goal: to let you know what is happening around the country in the churches, in the boards and agencies, around the world. *SDB World* goes three times a year with *Lead-Line*.

Meetings. During the year I attended 42 meetings. These include meeting with all the boards and agencies plus two of the associations, the North American Baptist Fellowship in Phoenix, Arizona, the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs in Washington, D.C., and the Baptist World Alliance General Council and World Congress in Los Angeles.

Coordinating Leadership Team. The executives which make up the Coordinating Leadership Team (CLT) have met three times for the ongoing coordination of our united efforts. We are happy to welcome Rev. Ernest Bee to this group with renewed commitment to our crucial need to inform and nurture the Christian life.

Church visits. I was able to visit with 22 different churches, counseling with pastors and lay leaders of those churches. Since the churches are where the real work of the denomination occurs, it is important for me to know the needs and important work of the churches so that responses and support can be appropriately directed.

Three slide programs circulated throughout the year depicting the work of SDBs in this country and worldwide. Groups in 45 churches viewed one or more of these programs: "The Church—God's Chosen People" (USA), "SDBs in Europe—Thorngate Good Will Trip," and "Around the World in Christ—SDB World Federation." Conference President Babcock used the USA set in seven of the 12 churches and five associations he visited. All are still available.

December 1985

Our goal is to make best use of the resources God has given us, to be good managers (stewards) of his gifts so that his Kingdom might indeed grow.

Stewardship

Stewardship is the 25-cent word for commitment. If the work of the General Conference is to be done, it takes money; the financial support and the commitment of our resources to every aspect of our work. When I talk about stewardship, I do not just mean support of the denominational program. I also include the churches. Since I attended Council on Christian Stewardship in March, I am more keenly aware of the intertwined work and relationship of the churches and the denominational agencies. We really need each other if we are to be effective in our kingdom building work.

Partnership in ministry. In the months ahead you may be hearing less about Our World Mission and more about our "Partnership in Ministry." We still have the same mission, God's mission of saving the world through his Son Jesus Christ. However, if we are to be effective, it requires our partnership efforts to get the job done. Our goal is to make the best use of the resources God has given us, to be good managers (stewards) of his gifts so that his Kingdom might indeed grow.

Our World Mission. Of the \$408,178 needed from current giving to raise the 1984

We must keep asking if what we are doing is good for God, good for us and good for our community.

denominational budget, we raised 82% (\$337,307) compared with 78% in 1983 and 75% in 1982. In 1985 we are moving a bit more quickly toward our goal of \$427,016. With 50% of the year elapsed, we have raised \$156,826 (37%). The challenge ahead is obvious. Last year the big push was to pay off the building. This year, let us fully fund our mission!

SDB World Federation

1986 sessions. The Executive Committee of the SDB World Federation, under the capable leadership of James A. Skaggs, president, is planning for the next sessions to be held in 1986. Since Eastern Association is hosting conference in 1986, we hope that the churches near the conference site will be able to host these meetings so that the delegates from around the world can attend our conference, too. Rev. Gabriel Bejjani has agreed to be pastor for the sessions and will be working with President Skaggs to organize a meaningful program. The dates are August 6-9.

Hosting delegates. There is potential for delegates from 16 different countries. Members and churches of the USA & Canada Conference are being asked to give money to pay the delegates' expenses to attend our conference sessions and to contribute toward the common fund to help with travel costs for those coming the farthest or least able to pay their way. You will be hearing more from me about this exciting event in the coming months.

Europe trip. Just after drafting my last annual report (before our 1984 conference), I visited in all our European conferences: the Dutch and German churches, which continue to support and coordinate the contacts in Eastern Europe; the British churches, which not only recall our 17th century origins, but reach out anew, particularly among the West Indians; the new church in Finland; and, finally, the Polish Conference, which entertained us so warmly as we welcomed them officially into the Seventh Day Baptist family.

Poland. I am happy to report the successful trip of Jan and Ruth Lek and Fritz Nieuwstraten in May to take paper, ink and other much-needed supplies from Holland to Poland for the expanded publishing work the Polish government has recently permitted there. Seventh Day Baptists in many countries are supporting this exciting outreach.

Baptist World Alliance

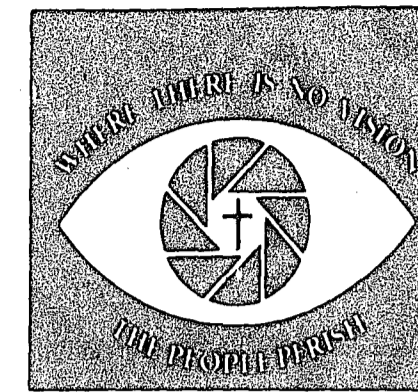
Every five years the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) has a World Congress in which representatives from over 130 Baptist bodies gather for worship, fellowship, and setting of goals for the next five years. Of the over 11,000 who attended the 15th World Congress in Los Angeles last month, 20 were Seventh Day Baptists.

SDB booth. Seventh Day Baptists shared a booth with The Heralds quartet at the Congress. Those of us who were there were amazed at the number of people we had opportunity to meet with and share the Sabbath. Hundreds expressed interest in our literature and were challenged to read the Bible to understand for themselves.

Reflections

We must keep asking if what we are doing is good for God, good for us and good for our community. We are so often aware of limited resources, yet God has blessed us with much. The time has never been better. In these years of high technology, more people need love and care relationships. The church is called to "go, teach, and baptize" but all in the name of Jesus who commanded that we "love one another."

I love you and pray that God will cause our love to grow so that our witness will be to his great love. SR



FOCUS on missions today

by Leon R. Lawton

Two new branch churches recognized

Los Angeles, Cal., USA: "We rejoice in the Lord because of the spiritual growth and development of our church's (Los Angeles) members in two areas, at Carson, California, and Santa Barbara-Goleta, California. These groups are now meeting regularly and are looking forward, Lord willing, to eventually establish themselves as Seventh Day Baptist Churches. At Carson, the group meets every Wednesday and Sunday evenings, with an outreach to young people and home Bible study groups in other areas. They plan to continue to worship with us at Highland Park on Sabbaths for some time yet. In the Santa Barbara area, two of our member families have been advertising since June and have begun meeting in September on Sabbaths, with about 5 interested families. Both have reached the status where some organizational structure is desirable to help them grow, so we feel they are ready to be called 'Branch Churches' (according to the SDB Manual of Procedure, pg. 29a). The participating members will continue to have membership in the Los Angeles church until they organize as independent Seventh Day Baptist Churches." (from the Coordinating Council's report to the annual meeting of the Los Angeles SDB church) SR

Selections distributed in Guyana

Guyana, South America: "In Guyana, 44,000 copies each of New Reader Selections and New Reader Portions (of the American Bible Society) have been distributed throughout the country by the Assemblies of God, Southern Baptist, Elim and Seventh Day Baptist churches. Most of these were given to children attending Sunday (Sabbath) School who took them home to share with their families. As a result, it is estimated that many thousands of children, young people and adults have read these Scriptures. Reading materials are in short supply and very expensive in Guyana. One church leader expressed his appreciation for the New Reader Scriptures by declaring, 'The United Bible Societies is heaven sent for this country.'" -New Reader News, ABS, Oct. '85 SR

Report from India

Nellore, India, Asia: Executive Secretary Rev. B. John V. Rao has his office and residence in Nellore but spends much time on the field. His gospel report for the month of September told of visits to at least 10 of their "Fields"—like our Association areas. These ranged from Guntur, 144 miles north of Nellore, to Madras, 112 miles south of Nellore. Comments (edited) include: "Held prayer meetings and wayside meetings on the day, spent some time with field's officials and members discussing their problems in respect of our mission work. ...went to other places to see and inspect churches. Discussed problems about field with Elders at respective places, and made solutions to Elders. Time bound programs have been mailed to all our Gospel teams, prayer crusade teams, prayer cells, women teams, Bible women teams, and also pastors. Inspected 'Perala SDB' church functioning. Satisfied. Rev. Rao addressed the meeting. He praised the good work done by all field workers, and held prayer meetings at some of our SDB churches, and at respective centers." SR

A prayer reminder for each day!

January 1986

Verse for the Month: *Thou wilt shew me the path of Life: in Thy presence is fulness of joy; at Thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.* Psalm 16:11

Pray for:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Christ being first in our lives during 1986 | 14. Mission. Pastor Quintin (Gene) Smith, Adams Center, NY |
| 2. Missionaries David and Bettie Pearson, Malawi, Africa | 15. your pastor during this Year of Ministry |
| 3. Australasian SDB Conf. at Auckland, New Zealand: 7-13th | 16. Rev. Jacob N. Tyrell and pastors, Guyana, South America |
| 4. faithfulness in keeping God's Sabbath | 17. Missionary Pastor Steven Crouch, Bay Area, CA |
| | 18. for those searching for a church home |
- Seventh Day Baptist Week of Prayer
- | | |
|--|--|
| 5. <i>It's a Great New Day.</i> Prayer Zone (PZ) Australia-New Zealand-Oceania | 19. quarterly meeting, Board of Christian Education |
| 6. Sunrise. Greeting the Light of the World. PZ- Far East, S. East Asia | 20. SDB Convention of Brazil, meeting this week |
| 7. Preparation for Work. PZ- Central Asia, India, China | 21. Missionary Pastor Bobbie Wright, Blountville, TN |
| 8. In the Heat of the Day. PZ- Eastern Europe, Middle East | 22. Pastor Ely Paypa, pastors and churches, The Philippines |
| 9. The Late Hour. PZ- Western Europe and Africa | 23. relationships in your church during The Year of Ministry |
| 10. Closing Time. PZ- Caribbean, Central and South America | 24. Missionary Pastor Lawrence O. Watt, White Cloud, MI |
| 11. The Glorious New Day. PZ- Mexico, USA and Canada (special SDBWF offering) | 25. Sabbath School Mission Offering in my church |
| 12. quarterly Meeting of the Memorial Fund Trustees | 26. quarterly meeting of Missionary Board, Westerly, RI |
| 13. closing day of Australasian SDB Conference | 27. T.I.M.E. Project Director, Rodney L. Henry, Janesville, WI |
| | 28. the witness of your church during The Year of Ministry |
| | 29. Coordinating Leadership Team meeting in Janesville, WI |
| | 30. for plans for SDB World Federation sessions this year |
| | 31. for a good Sabbath |

Moving?

Please clip this change of address form and mail it to:

Circulation Department
The Sabbath Recorder
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Janesville, WI 53547

Affix your
old mailing label
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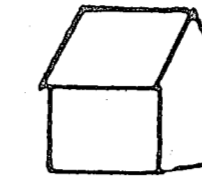
New Address:

Name: _____
Street: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Racco gets a sister



Racco



Home



Corn



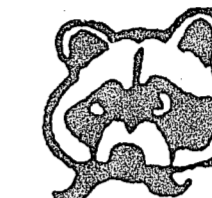
Baby



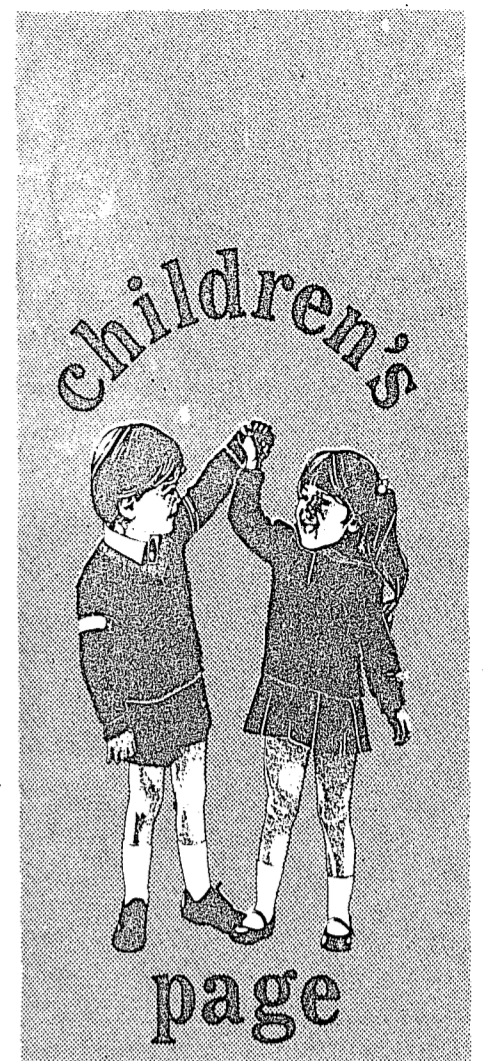
Mom



Happy



Dad



This had been a busy and exciting year for and his family. They had moved into a new and bigger . They had grown . They had made many new friends. And —today— had a new sister! They named her Rachael. That afternoon and and talked about all they would need to do to help grow up healthy and . read from Luke 2 about Joseph and Mary taking baby Jesus to the temple and promising to bring him up knowing God. So the next Sabbath, 's family all went to church and promised to bring up knowing God and Jesus. even promised to help. What a great way to end one year and start a new one!





The season of giving

by Marilyn Merchant

Dear Ones All,

Joyeux Noel. The Christmas Season is approaching rapidly and most of us are hustling about involved with church, school or family plans for celebration of the Savior's birth. There are those who are not, who do not celebrate Christmas for a number of reasons. One dear old Christian man told me he did not because he did not know when Christ was born.

Before you shake your heads and wonder at my next remarks, I am only making a point, not equating myself with Jesus. I was born in November. I was married 21 years and one day after my birth. To the day he died, my poor husband could not remember which day was which. It really did not make that much difference, we just celebrated two days and once in a while he got it in the right order. The important fact is that Christ was born into this world, the Son

of God, sent to redeem us. The logistics are interesting but not the prime importance.

As a part of this month's script I would have liked to quote Luke 2:1-21 from the Living New Testament, but space forbids. Please, if you have that version read it. I love the King James version but this was a fresh approach to a beloved story. I believe in giving gifts in honor of Jesus' birth. (Note: I did not say birthday, and I had hoped to have a guest devotional for you but that plan failed.)

Two of my favorite secular Christmas stories are about gift giving and are very similar. I have read both many times, one by Harriet Beecher Stowe entitled *Christmas, or the Good Fairy*, and the other a true story published in the *Daily Guidepost*, 1982 written by Dr. Norman Vincent Peale. If you can find either, the first being included in Pearl Buck's *Book of Christmas*, I think you may too find a blessing in them. For those of you who have access to neither, the stories center around young women who are in a quandry as to what to give persons who have been amply blessed with this world's riches. Their solutions are alike in that they search out someone in the poorest sections of town and give a really useful gift to a baby. Mrs. Stowe's character also gives gifts to several others in need, all in the name of those who were amply provided for. As I reread the stories I thought of our Nighties for Newborns project. Please do not stop now, we have just gotten rolling. Here we are in our land of plenty, giving a small

gift in Jesus' name to those precious little ones who many times arrive with nothing awaiting them but a cloth to bind them to their mother's body to go home.

Many societies make a special effort during this season to remember those in hospitals, nursing homes and shut-ins. The young people and some not so young, go caroling and how it brings joy to the heart of those who hear the beloved hymns once more. This can involve whole families and that is so rewarding in this day and age of everyone rushing in different directions.

Gifts need not be costly. A note to someone, some shared food, something from the heart is the gift longest remembered and most appreciated. An evening of free babysitting for the young couple wanting a few hours away, or a fill in for a couple of hours for someone who is caring for an invalid. How about reading to a friend whose eyesight is dim or grocery shopping for someone who is not as mobile as you are.

I really wracked my brain to think what new and different projects I could tell you about. No new ideas came to my notice and then came my answer...notes from Sunshine Mountain. Who could be more deserving of mention than these children of God's who, for one reason or another, are finding love and care there on the mountain. I call them fortunate because they are fortunate to have found such a place when so many are suffering from lack of love and understanding. Many of you took advantage of the proximity of Conference and visited them. Linda mentioned especially the gifts of the Seventh Day Baptist ladies in their Love Gift as well as individuals who month

Gifts need not be costly. A note to someone, some shared food, something from the heart is the gift longest remembered and most appreciated.

after month send money for medical bills and special needs. Perhaps you can think of something you can do to help out.

At the time she wrote, there were two small babies there. Maybe a few layettes would be welcomed to have in reserve, or a baby quilt or two. I know they are always in need of towels, both bath and dish variety. Right now they are saving money to replace a small apartment-sized stove in the cottage with a new electric cook top and wall oven.

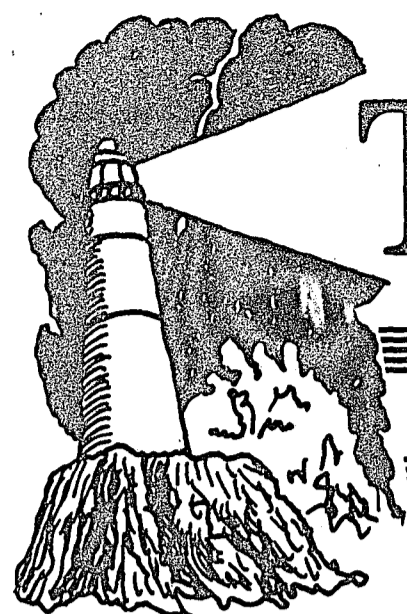
In the late Peter Marshall's sermon, "Let's Keep Christmas" he closes with, "...We want to hold on to the old customs and traditions because they strengthen our family ties, bind us to our friends, make us one with all mankind for whom the Child was born, and bring us back again to the God Who gave His only begotten Son, that 'whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.' So we will not spend Christmas...nor observe Christmas—keep it as it is...in all the loveliness of its ancient traditions. May we keep it in our hearts, that we may be kept in His hope."

I pray for you all good health, good friends and the joy of knowing my Jesus, the babe whose birth we commemorate each year.

Lovingly,

Marilyn





THE BEACON

Produced by the Youth
Ministries Committee of the
Board of Christian
Education, Alfred, NY
14802

For and by members of the Seventh Day Baptist Youth Fellowship

December 1985

Director of Youth Ministry

The idea of a youth ministry worker has been around for a number of years. The Board of Christian Education had arranged for dedicated summer youth workers as early as 1959 when Helena Knox (Aldrich) worked in Association Camps across the United States. She was followed in 1960 by Luan Sutton (Ellis); in 1961 by Janet Van Horn (Thorngate) and Joyce Sholtz (Burdick); and in 1962 by Linda Bingham (Hays). Linda Hays

Dr. George Thorngate eloquently pleaded before the assembled representatives of the churches in 1967 for a full-time youth worker.

became a full-time dedicated youth worker following conference in 1962 and served until the spring of 1964. Esther Burdick was employed full time in October 1968 and served through conference 1969. These workers sowed the seeds and provided the lessons in organization.

During those earlier years of the summer workers, the idea of a youth ministry worker was born. The Rev. J. Paul Green, Dean of the Center on Ministry, wrote as chairman of the Board's Youth Committee 25 years ago in his report to General Conference, "The hope of being able to employ a full-time youth worker remains very much in our minds."

Dr. George Thorngate eloquently pleaded before the assembled representatives of the churches in 1967 for a full-time youth worker. The Youth Committee of the Board of Christian Education is now seeking to fulfill those dreams. The 1985 General Conference meeting in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, in August approved the funding for the employment of a Youth Ministry Director.

The Board of Christian Education at the October quarterly Directors' meeting approved the Qualifications, Job Description and Terms of Contract for the Director of Youth Ministry. The proposed date of employment is August 1, 1986.

Persons interested in applying for the position of Director of Youth Ministry must submit their resume to the Youth Committee, Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education, 15 South Main Street, Alfred, New York 14802, before February 1, 1986.

The Qualifications for Director of Youth Ministry are:

1. Commitment

We are seeing an individual whose love for God and his Son, Jesus Christ, has been evidenced through active membership and participation in the life of a Seventh Day Baptist Church and who is committed to Seventh Day Baptist beliefs.

2. Requirements

A) be a college graduate and preferably with seminary training
B) have leadership ability (initiate and sustain ideas)

C) have communications skills (thinking, listening, speaking, writing, teaching)

D) love working with youth (ages: 12-22)

E) have experience in youth programs (such as local Youth Fellowships and camps, National SDBYF Conference activities, SCSC, Pre-Con Camps)

F) be able and willing to travel

G) be imaginative and creative

H) have musical ability

I) be fun-loving

3. References

Applicants must submit letters of reference from a pastor and one other member of their church.

Test Yourself

Hidden Seventh Day Baptist Churches

(Circle the letters spelling the name of a Seventh Day Baptist Church. Consider you were Fair if you found 15; Good if you found 20; and Nearly Perfect if you found 25.)

1. They found the real Fred singing in the church choir.
2. In beautiful October, linger on the country roads.
3. Across the plain, field, and valley the road searched for the distant hill.
4. I saw a plover on a beach.
5. He fell at the river side near the landmark boulder.
6. With all this movement who could paint? Rocks keep the car bouncing up and down.
7. His lecture was educational, Bionomics being quite a little rocky now.
8. When the child was lost, creeks and rivers were dragged.
9. She was a maiden, versatile in her musical ability.
10. Emil, tonight we must be home early.
11. Looking for the familiar tree, she saw an ash away up on the mountain side.
12. Give Gladys a lemon for her throat.
13. Jans Jaffo, Ukelele player, was absent from the party.
14. He rode quite far in a bus.
15. The hounds held the bear at bay. Area of the chase was located near the old stone fort.
16. Ben Ortonville wrote home of the battle. Creek Indians seemed to hide behind every tree in Georgia.
17. The New York Central Railroad train crossed the Genesee valley out of the shadows into the sun shine. Mountains had walled out the warm light.
18. Continuing his dodge, Centerfielder Smith eluded the fans and made a perfect catch.
19. Steaming into port, land was spotted giving hope to Mr. James Madison.

Answers: 1. Alfred 2. Berlin 3. Plainfield 4. Verona 5. Riverside, Boulder 6. Paint Rock 7. Albion, Little Rock 8. Lost Creek 9. Denver 10. Milton 11. Ashaway 12. Salem 13. Foulke 14. Farina 15. Bay Area, Old Stone Fort 16. Nortonville, Battle Creek 17. New York, Central, Genesee, Sunshine Mountain 18. Dodge Center 19. Portland, Hope, Madison

Scripture Memorization Honor Roll 1985

The Board of Christian Education congratulates the teachers and parents of students who participated in the 1985

Scripture Memorization Program.

Scripture passages on Seventh Day Baptist beliefs were memorized.

Certificates of Honor were presented at General Conference sessions in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, to:

Seattle, Washington

Dixie Inabnit—Junior High/Adult

Julie Meeks—Junior High/Adult

Kenneth Meeks—Junior High/Adult

Maude Posey—Junior High/Adult

Kerri Sanford—Junior High/Adult

Milton, Wisconsin

Angela Gilmore—Junior

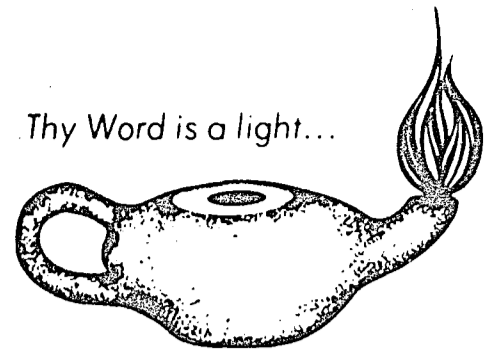
Brenda Lippincott—Junior

Riverside, California

Hazel Nophsker—Adult

Salem, West Virginia

Kaisla McElwain—Junior



Board of Christian Education

Pacific Coast Association Christian Education Committee

The Pacific Coast Association Christian Education Committee, under the leadership of Mrs. Jane Mackintosh, has committed itself to an increasingly larger role in Christian Education for Seventh Day Baptists. Primarily focusing upon Christian Education for pre-teenage children, the Pacific Coast Association Christian Education Committee reported at the Riverside, California, meetings for their Association (October 18-20, 1985).

The committee has accepted responsibility for Directorship of the 1986 Primary Associated Conference. (This shall serve as a Pilot Program for possible involvement by other associations in the future. They also reported that they were continuing the project of Mrs. Nancy May. This involves collecting information on plays, puppet shows and musicals which have been successful in our churches in order to compile a Resource List for use with Christian Education

The committee will serve, through Mrs. Jean Lewis, chairman; Mrs. Nancy May; and the Rev. Steven Crouch, as *The Sabbath Visitor* Editorial Advisory Committee. They are assisting and encouraging Mrs. Victoria Burdick, editor.

It was this committee that conducted a Demonstration Laboratory on teaching methods during the Sabbath School at the 1985 General Conference held in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. Leaders for the presentations were Dr. Lewis and Nancy May (Drama, Young Adults); Mrs. Jane Mackintosh (Flannel "Story" Board, Two and Three Year Olds); Mrs. Ralph and Dede Mackintosh (Puppets, Primary) and Pastor William Shobe (Agree/Disagree, Youth). Mrs. Lannette Calhoun was Music Instructor and Pastor Kevin Butler was the Narrator.

One of the new committee's projects has been to investigate options concerning the *Sabbath Nurture Series*. They report that they have had preliminary conversations with Gospel Light Publishers concerning the possibility and cost of reprinting the *Sabbath Nurture Series* in colorful, competitive format. The Primary materials were chosen for first consideration. Mr. Ralph Mackintosh serves as committee liaison with Gospel Light personnel. Mrs. Ruth Peil has been selected as the editor for this Pilot Project. SR

Teacher's corner Teaching Scripture Memorization

by Linda Hays, Sunshine Mountain, Mississippi.

I have one method which has helped my Juniors and Junior Highs in Scripture memorization: have the student write the verse to be learned on the chalkboard; have the class read it in unison; then erase one word and have them read it again. Continue erasing one word at a time until the entire verse is learned. Of course, the students can do the erasing, as well as the teacher, taking turns. Or you can have one child do the erasing for the

entire verse.

A variation on this idea is to write each word of the verse on a flashcard. Then the teacher can have the students assemble them in order on a table. One card can be removed at a time using cards instead of the chalkboard erasing method. The flashcard method is even more variable, for the cards can be distributed among the students. Each one can put down his or her card when the proper time comes as the verse is assembled. For longer portions of scripture, phrases or groups of

Cont. to page 27.

Sunshine Mountain counts blessings

Excerpts from *Sunshine Mountain Newsletter*

So many of you have asked about Mary Ann Hays, have been faithful in your prayers for her, and have given special gifts in response to her needs. We are very happy to report that Mary came through her gall bladder surgery with flying colors, recovering with remarkable rapidity, experienced no complications and is doing very well. We just praise God for her deliverance, and thank all of our friends across the country who have been praying for Mary. And we praise the Lord, also, that the financial needs for the hospital, as well as private duty nurses and sitters, have been met. The Women's Love Gift helped with part of that, as well as other designated gifts.

We thank the Lord for some very special ladies who have remembered the needs of Sunshine Mountain in very practical ways. The Seventh Day Baptist Women's Love Gift included \$311 designated for medical bills. But there are other ladies, individuals whose names I have not requested permission to use, so I won't, who have been faithful month after month with their designated gifts. Various church ladies' groups have made quilts, or have sent funds from particular projects. Another group made and filled individual "diddy bags" with personal toilet articles for the children. Thank you ladies, so very much, and keep up the good work. We love you.

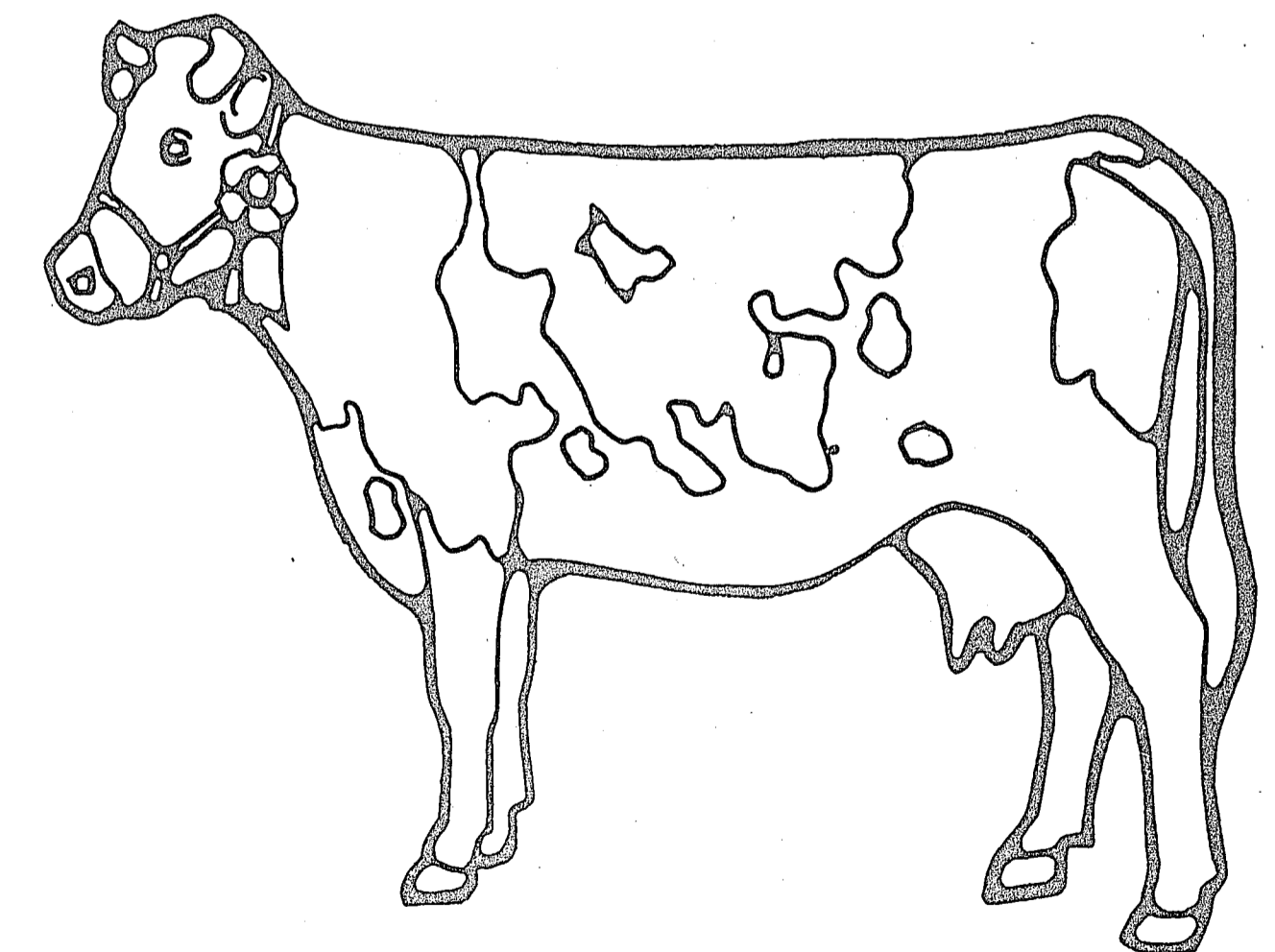
During the summer we realized anew just how important our corps of volunteer workers are, especially the young people. Gold stars for Jay and Connie Hays for their hours of work, day after day, in the sometimes tedious routine of keeping up with the keeping on. Scrubbing floors and bathroom fixtures, feeding and milking livestock, fixing a meal for eight or 10 people with no advance notice, keeping the cooks supplied with vegetables and produce—these are not glamorous jobs, but Jay and Connie stuck with them like veterans, and we appreciate so much their dedication and cooperation. They exhibit a maturity and sense of responsibility beyond their actual years.

Not many 16 year-old boys know how to handle a retarded boy who doesn't want to get his hair washed, but Jay does. And Connie, at 14, can take a group of retarded persons and keep them busy and happy for hours, doing so with a natural gift which many of us envy. We think they are very special young people, head and shoulders above ordinary teenagers.

We thank the Lord for some very special ladies who have remembered the needs of Sunshine Mountain in very practical ways.

Hurricane Elena visited Sunshine Mountain on Labor Day, but did no major damage here. Some trees fell, and a few shingles on the northeast corner of the new building were blown off. The major inconvenience of the storm was being without electricity for four days. All of our cookstoves are electric. And with no electric power, we had no running water in the building, either. Praise the Lord for our artesian well! The water runs all the time, 25 gallons-a-minute. All we had to

Cont. to page 27.



(Teachers, if you have an idea for the Teacher's Corner, please send it to the Board of Christian Education, 15 South Main Street, Alfred, New York 14802.)

Yearly meeting at Plainfield

by Ruth Parker

The 234th session of the Yearly Meeting of the eight Seventh Day Baptist churches in Eastern New York, New Jersey, and Eastern Pennsylvania met with the Plainfield, New Jersey Church on Sabbath, September 28, 1985. The Friday evening service, with Pastor Kenneth Burdick as worship leader and Pastor Everett Dickinson as speaker, had to be canceled because of hurricane Gloria. Sabbath Day turned out to be sunny and warm. The theme was "Responding to the Lordship of Christ."

During this service Mary Jane McPherson of the Raritan Valley Church led a children's program in the church parlor.

A young people's quiz based on the books of Jonah and Philipians was conducted by the Plainfield church with the help of others. Division A was for primary and junior students. Participants were: Grace and Mark Camenga of Shiloh, David Maltby and Courtney Williams of Plainfield. The latter team won. Division B was for junior and senior high school

The Friday evening service, with Pastor Kenneth Burdick as worship leader and Pastor Everett Dickinson as speaker, had to be canceled because of hurricane Gloria.

Sabbath School began at 10:00 with classes for all ages. Gordon Kilts of Schenectady and Jeanne Yurke led the two *Helping Hand* classes. The worship service at 11:15 was conducted by Pastor Joe Samuels with 110 present, and the speaker was Pastor John Camenga. Rolleesa Thurman of the Hope Church was soloist, both morning and evening.

A delicious chicken dinner was served, family style, by Margret Armstrong and Jeannette Duryea, with many helpers. The buffet supper at 5:30 was partly contributed. Donations by everyone helped to pay expenses.

The New York City Youth Fellowship led the afternoon service, with choruses, a quartet, men's trio, duet and other musical selections. Six groups were formed to rewrite Ephesians 6:10-17, making it applicable to Seventh Day Baptists. Each version was real aloud.

students. Participants were: Wendy Samuels and Marie Campbell of Hope, Andrew and Faith Camenga of Shiloh, Lorna Parter and Myron Samuels of Plainfield. The Shiloh team won Division B. Thus Shiloh and Plainfield were tied for the overall competition.

After supper the business meeting was conducted by Douglas Wheeler, Plainfield moderator. The morning offering added to the balance from 1984 brought the total to over \$390. It was voted to send only \$100 to Marlboro for the 1986 Yearly Meeting and the remainder, after the pastors' travel expenses are paid, to OWM. The Bible quiz had been so challenging that it was voted to ask Marlboro to include a young people's quiz, with a committee headed by Pastor Joe Samuels in charge.

The Hope Church, with Kermit Lawrence as announcer, led the evening vespers. Mr. and Mrs. Ben Samuels sang a duet and Fred Ayars gave his testimony. A fun time followed, under the leadership of Joyce Samuels and Jeannette Duryea. After refreshments the Yearly Meeting was adjourned. SR

The Sabbath Recorder

RELIGION IN THE NEWS

Catholics survey Priest shortage

With the U.S. Catholic population at 52 million, up from 43 million 20 years ago, the number of priests has dropped from 58,000 to 57,000. Catholic seminaries are struggling for new recruits.

A recent survey of Catholic college students revealed that lifting sanctions against marriage would change that picture. Dean Hoge, sociologist at Catholic University, reported that more than half the students surveyed indicated a "serious interest" in serving in a lay capacity, but most had no interest in a life of celibacy.

Since Catholic leadership has shown no sentiment toward changing the celibacy requirement, it is likely that efforts will be made to introduce laymen at certain levels of service to release clergy time. SR

Mormons warned

The 155th semi-annual conference of the Mormon church dealt with criticism from within and without. In recent months Mormon scholars have revealed findings about Joseph Smith's interest in spiritualism and treasure-hunting. Letters and diaries written by Smith's friends were made public and open discussions followed regarding the sources of Mormon documents.

Elder James E. Faust, representing the Council of Twelve, said that Mormons place their souls in peril if they criticize the leaders or the doctrines of the church.

In addition to internal strains, the Mormons have been under attack for their expansion in Israel, Micronesia, and the Caribbean. SR

Baptist church gets \$14.6 million

An Associated Press story reports that nearly \$15 million has been raised to double the size of Jackson, Mississippi's First Baptist Church. The 7,000 member church will have the world's largest church organ, installed at a cost of more than \$2 million-plus. Total cost of the expansion project has been placed at \$16 million.

Contributions included four gifts of \$1 million each, cashed-in insurance policies, and two pearl-handled revolvers. SR

Adventists sue for exemptions

Seventh Day Adventists in Indiana have taken their case to court. The church has filed a suit against the state board of tax commissioners for denying tax-exemptions on selected church property. The land includes farm land, private residences, a book store, and other facilities declared to be non-exempt by the state. SR

Supreme Court to hear religious freedom issue

Should a blind man, studying for the ministry, receive vocational rehabilitation funds? That question will be faced by the U.S. Supreme Court in this term, and the answer may have far-reaching implications.

The issue is clear: the State of Washington denies state assistance to students attending religious institutions of study. The federal laws qualify the claimant for vocational rehabilitation.

The defense claims that the student has a right to be trained and find employment of his choice. The state claims that public money shall not be used for religious purposes. Several related cases should be settled on the basis of the Supreme Court decision. SR

December 1985

Put out to pasture

A five minute play for P.R.O.P.

Adapted from a skit written by Yvonne Stephan for C.O.S.A.R.

Scene: Pastor George and his wife, Martha, are sitting on the front porch of the parsonage.

Pastor George: Well, Martha, that was a nice retirement reception the church gave us, wasn't it? Forty-five years in the ministry—now we can retire and move out on our own.

front porch? I look forward to choosing my own colors for paint and wallpaper without having to check with a committee. I'm not sure I will be able to do that. You may have to be my committee.

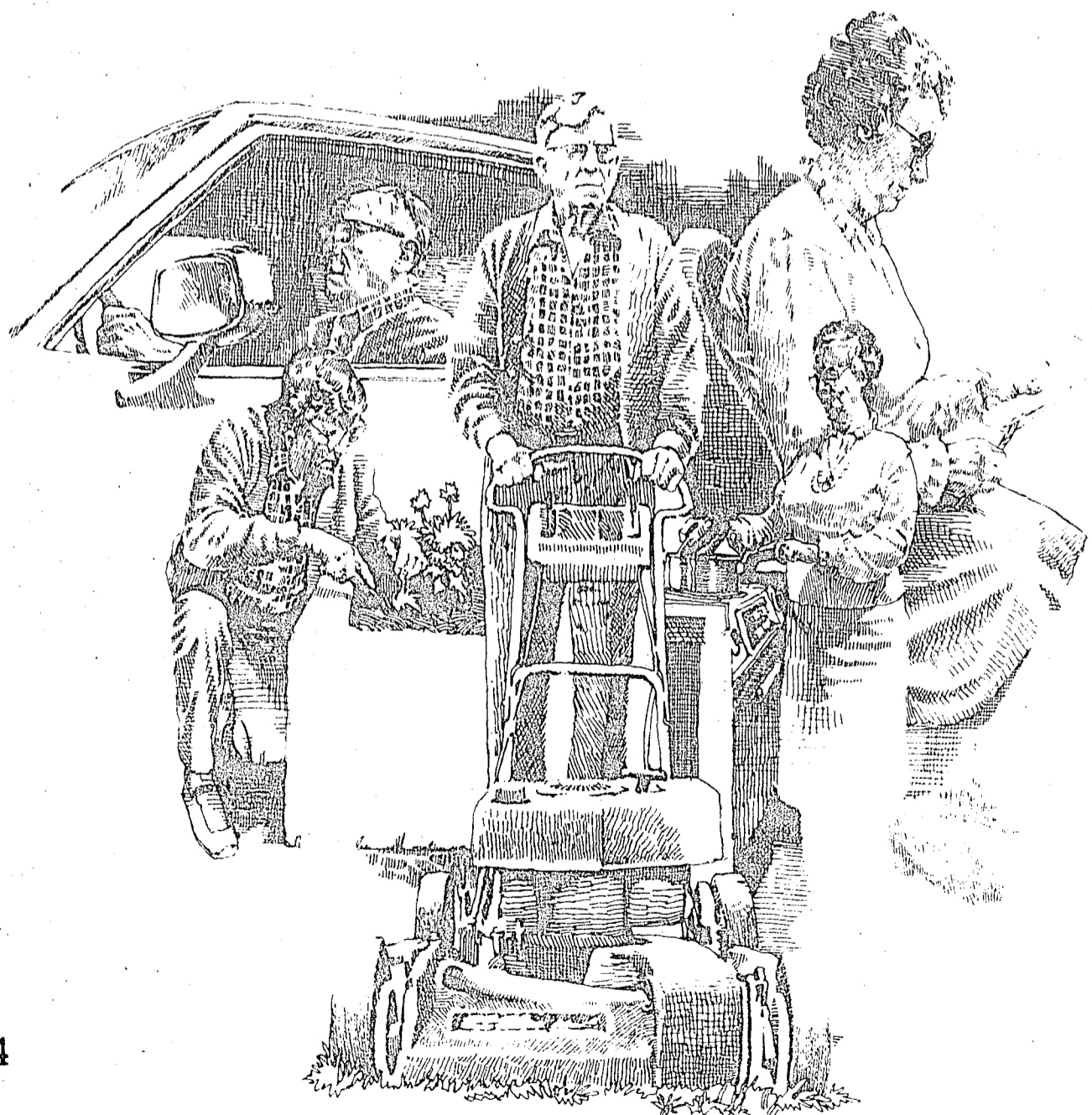
Pastor George: Me! No, not me. But first we have to find a house that we can afford. Then we will see if there is any money left over for redecorating. We have never owned any property so we don't have any equity to draw on. To find a place to live may require more than we can presently afford.

Martha: You mean to tell me that after all these years of ministering to not only my family, but to the church members, the trustees, and the women's societies, now that it is just you and me, we don't have enough to minister to our own needs! Oh no! All those years of developing patience with committees, now I'll have to use patience on myself. (Martha bows her head) Dear Lord. In that mansion you are preparing for me, I pray that you are choosing a color I will like! (To Pastor George) George, do you remember that old minister friend we met years ago who said that he'd never retire? He'd stay in the harness until the Lord called him home. He wasn't going to be turned out to pasture to nibble on the grass.

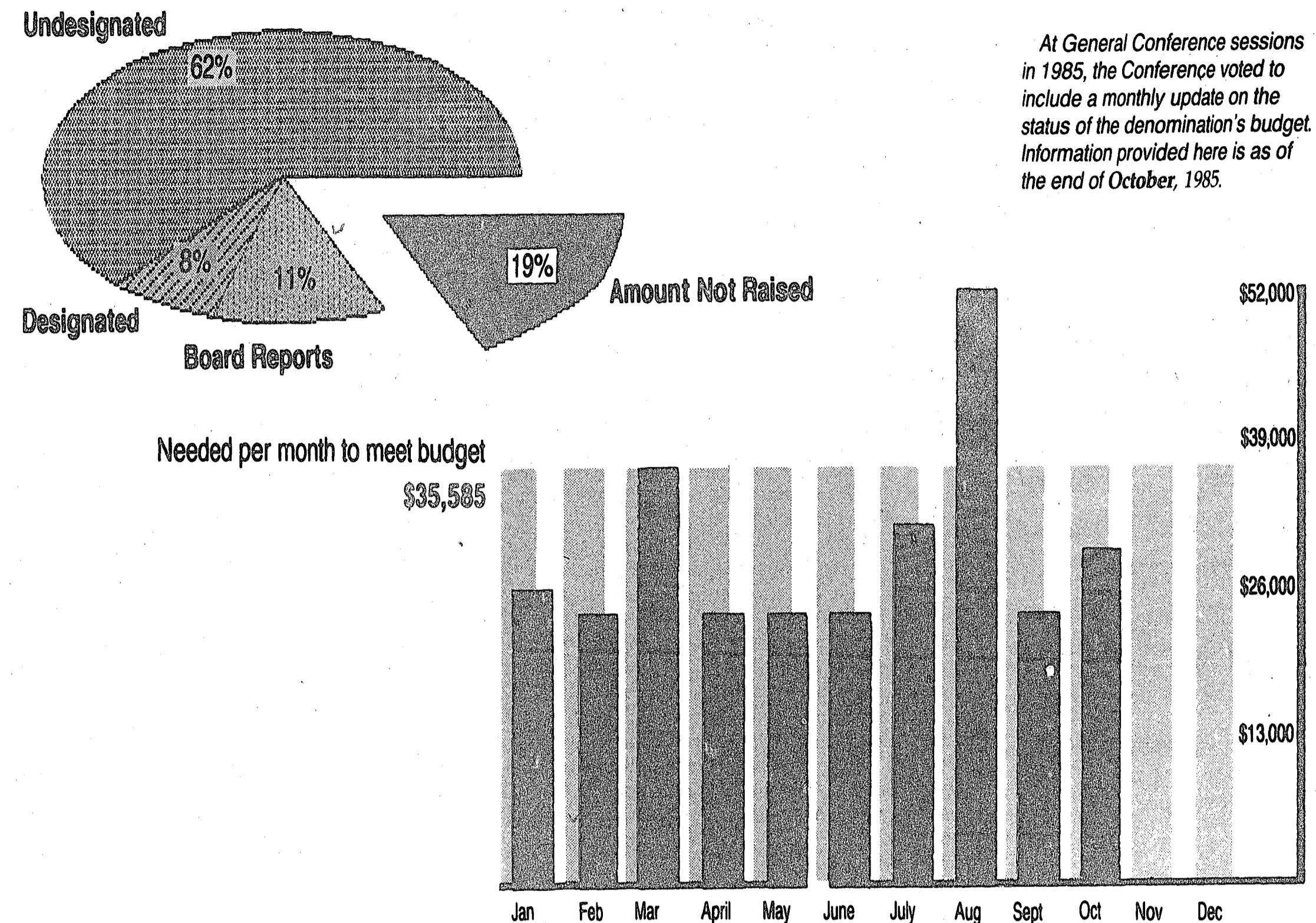
Pastor George (nodding): Well right now I can see reasons for that attitude. The grass in our pasture looks pretty thin and nibbled down short. The Lord has provided the sun and rain to grow the grass but someone forgot to put out more seed to grow into grass. (Pastor George stands up and moves behind Martha and places his hand on her shoulder.) Martha, I sure hope our Seventh Day Baptist churches will do a lot more to support the Pastor's Retirement Offering Project. SR

The grass in our pasture looks pretty thin. The Lord has provided the sun and rain, but someone forgot to put out more seed.

Martha: Out on our own! I wonder what that is going to mean. You certainly won't be able to sit on the front porch and count your money—blessings perhaps, but not money. After 45 years of living in parsonages, what will it be like to have a home of our own? Will we even have a



Our World Mission budget update



Yes! I want to be a partner in *Our World Mission.*

My Partnership Plan:

- One week's salary or income
 Other

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____

Zip: _____ Church: _____

This contribution is for:

- OWM undesignated giving
 OWM designated for:
 Evangelism and Missions
 Christian Education
 Publishing (Sabbath Recorder, Lead-Line, Tracts)
 Leadership Training (Ministerial or Lay Training)
 Hunger Relief (SDB United Relief Fund)

Please make checks payable to Our World Mission.

Put out to pasture

A five minute play for P.R.O.P.

Adapted from a skit written by Yvonne Stephan for C.O.S.A.R.

Scene: Pastor George and his wife, Martha, are sitting on the front porch of the parsonage.

Pastor George: Well, Martha, that was a nice retirement reception the church gave us, wasn't it? Forty-five years in the ministry—now we can retire and move out on our own.

front porch? I look forward to choosing my own colors for paint and wallpaper without having to check with a committee. I'm not sure I will be able to do that. You may have to be my committee.

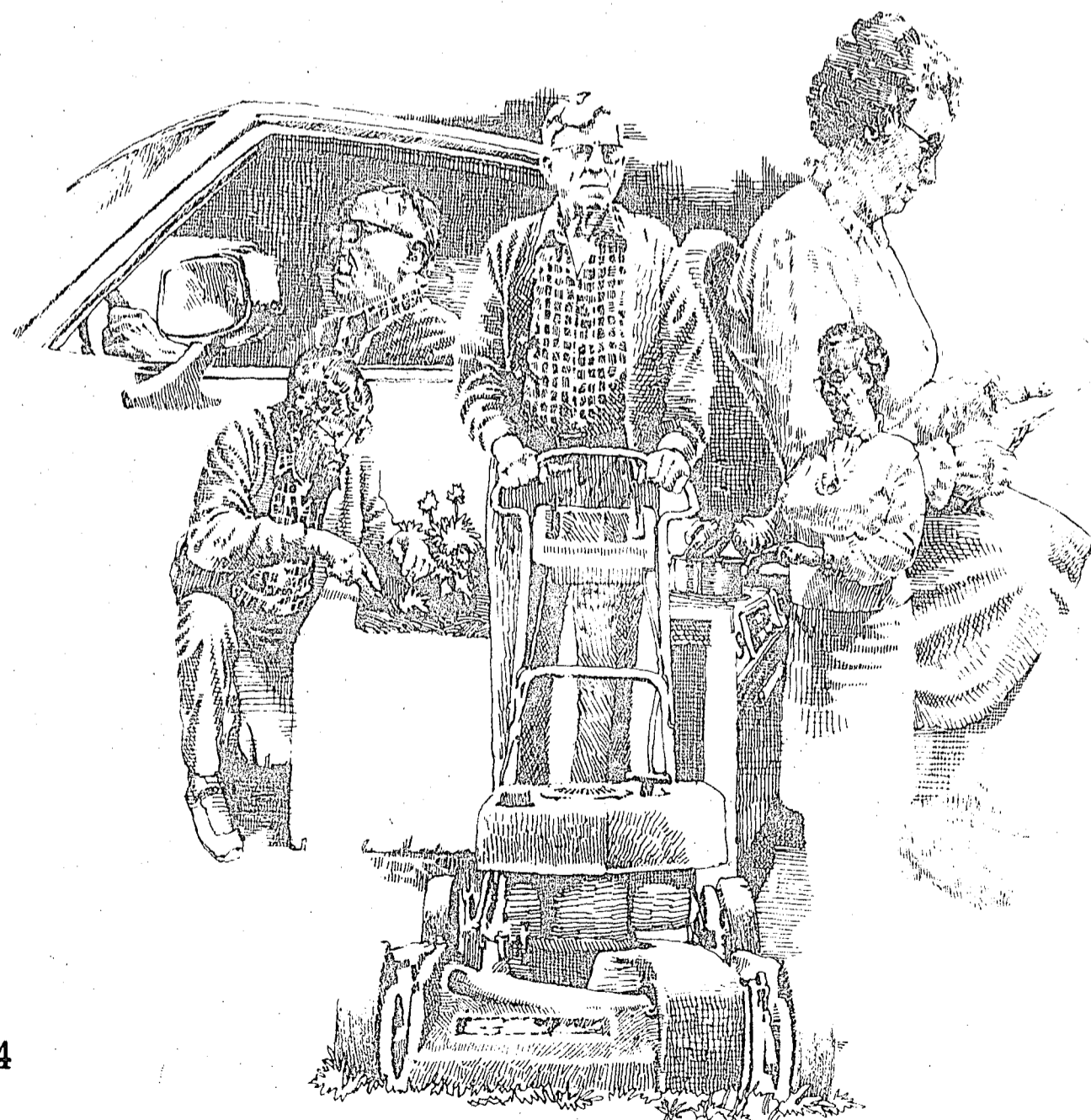
Pastor George: Me! No, not me. But first we have to find a house that we can afford. Then we will see if there is any money left over for redecorating. We have never owned any property so we don't have any equity to draw on. To find a place to live may require more than we can presently afford.

Martha: You mean to tell me that after all these years of ministering to not only my family, but to the church members, the trustees, and the women's societies, now that it is just you and me, we don't have enough to minister to our own needs! Oh no! All those years of developing patience with committees, now I'll have to use patience on myself. (Martha bows her head) Dear Lord. In that mansion you are preparing for me, I pray that you are choosing a color I will like! (To Pastor George) George, do you remember that old minister friend we met years ago who said that he'd never retire? He'd stay in the harness until the Lord called him home. He wasn't going to be turned out to pasture to nibble on the grass.

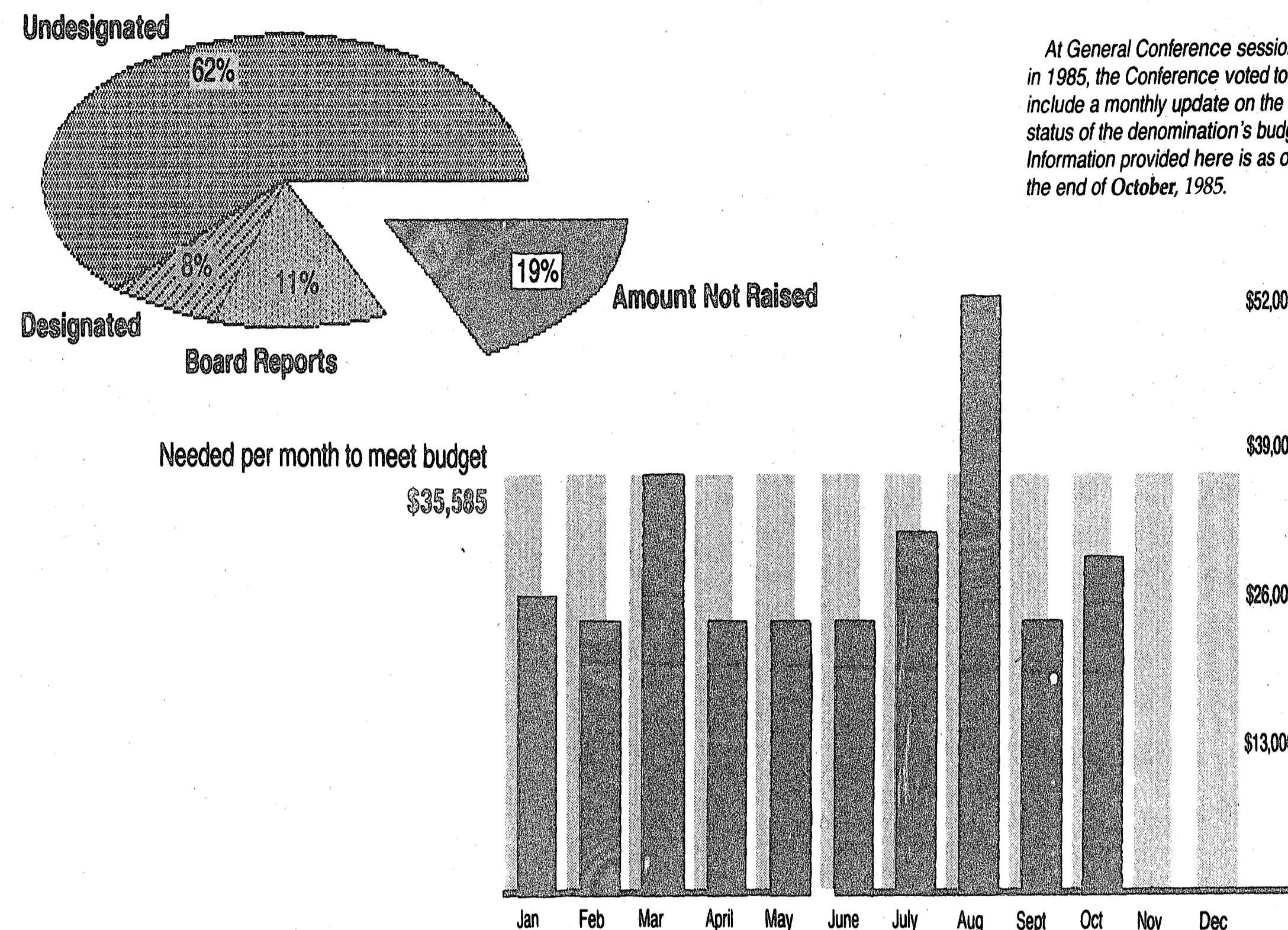
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Obituaries



*Show me, O Lord,
my life's end and
the number of my
days; let me know
how fleeting is my
life...Each man's
life is but a breath.
But now, Lord,
what do I look
for? My hope is in
you.*

Psalm 39:4-5, 7

Worley.—Barbara Knowles Worley, daughter of the late Horace W. Knowles and of Emily B. Knowles of Westerly, Rhode Island, was born in Barrington, Rhode Island, on December 29, 1930, and died unexpectedly in Phoenix, Arizona, on September 29, 1985.

Barbara grew up in Westerly but moved to the west about 30 years ago, where she lived until the time of her death. She was a secretary with Accounting Computer Resources Corporation of Phoenix and a member of the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church in Westerly.

She is survived by her husband, Arliss Worley; her mother, Emily B. Knowles of Westerly; two brothers and a sister, Horace W. Knowles, Jr. of Yuma, Arizona, William W. Knowles of Valley Farms, Arizona, and Natalie K. Mathews of Croydon, England; plus nieces and nephews.

Funeral services and burial were in Phoenix. DER

Davis.—Arnold A. Davis was born May 21, 1909, at Farnam, Nebraska, to the Rev. Wilburt and Leola Clarke Davis, and died at Battle Creek, Michigan, May 4, 1985, a few days before his 76th birthday.

As a small boy, he moved with his parents to Gentry, Arkansas. His father later had a pastorate in Middle Island, West Virginia, before the family moved to the Marlboro, New Jersey, area. Arnold and his brother, C. Burton, attended Milton College, Milton, Wisconsin, in 1928. He married Harriet Franklin Davis on August 11, 1936, near Verona, New York.

Surviving are his wife and two sons, Owen F. of Des Plaines, Illinois, and Ervin S. of Sudbury, Massachusetts. The youngest son, Oliver C., died in an auto crash on May 11, 1981, near his home in New Carrollton, Maryland. Also surviving are a sister, Sara D. Reams of Commerce City, Colorado, two granddaughters and two grandsons.

He enjoyed photography and gardening very much.

Shortly before his retirement from auto body repair at the local Ford garage, he accepted the job of custodian at Holston Camp. There he found a variety of ways to use his handyman skills and tools he had acquired.

For more than a year he was an instructor in auto body repair for Job Corps at Fort Custer. He also instructed in the apprenticeship program in the Battle Creek Public Schools.

He held many offices and served on numerous committees of the Battle Creek Seventh Day Baptist Church. For many years he was moderator, and the work of the church ranked high in his priorities.

For 26 years he provided a service of tape recording Sabbath morning worship and taking recordings to the homes of the elderly and shut-in.

Funeral services were conducted by his pastor, the Rev. S. Kenneth Davis, from a local funeral home. Burial was in Memorial Park Cemetery.

Burdick.—Dora W. Burdick, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Myron J. Whitford, was born in New Market, New Jersey, on November 9, 1900, and died at Park Manor Nursing Home, Park Falls, Wisconsin, on October 1, 1985.

Dora was married to Russell W. Burdick at New Market on August 3, 1921. Together they attended Milton College for a year and a half. They lived in New Market until 1927 when they moved to Milton, making their home there until the fall of 1984 when they moved to Park Falls. To this union were born three daughters: Beverly Thorngate, Marjorie Munns and Joan Case.

She is survived by her husband, three daughters, 10 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on Sabbath, October 19, 1985, from the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church with Pastor Earl Cruzan officiating, assisted by Pastor Herbert Saunders. Interment was in Milton Cemetery. EC

Accessions

Adams Center, New York
Gene Smith, Sr., Pastor

Joined by Letter:
Gene Smith, Sr.
Angela Smith

Alfred, New York
Walter J. Taylor

Marriages

Nadeau-Hays.—Donald Nadeau, Jr. of Westerly, Rhode Island, and Cindy Lou Hays of Westerly were united in marriage on August 31, 1985, at the meeting house of the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church in Westerly by their pastor, Dale E. Rood.

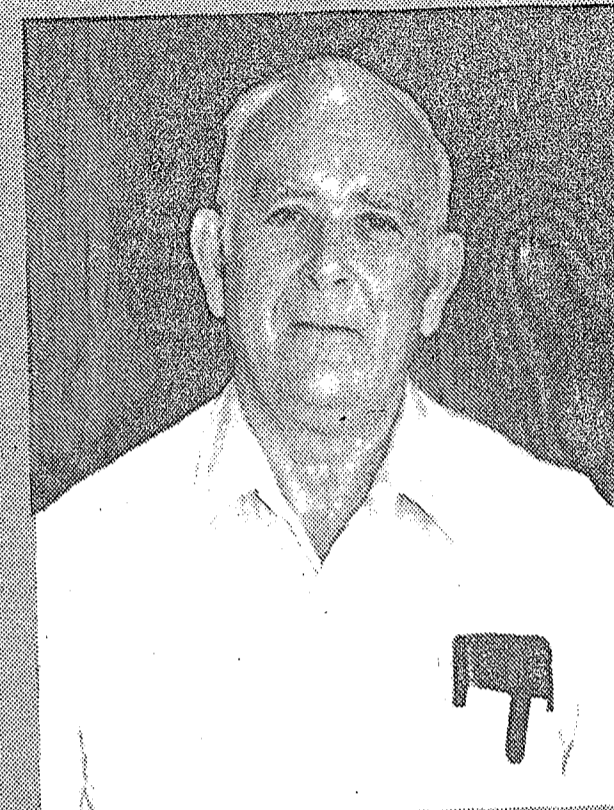
Obituaries

Goodson.—Rev. Floyd L. Goodson, 64, of Fouke, Arkansas, died Thursday, October 24, 1985, of a sudden illness.

Services were held at 3 p.m. on Sunday, October 27, at the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Fouke where Pastor Goodson had served for the past 12 years. Lay Pastors David Webb and Everett Jones of the Fouke church officiated. Burial was at the Cedar Grove Cemetery in Waldron, Arkansas.

Rev. Goodson was born April 17, 1921, in Waldron. As well as being the pastor of the Fouke Seventh Day Baptist Church, he was the headmaster of Fouke Academy and coach of the Fouke Academy Judo Club and Boxing Team.

Survivors include his wife, Lois Goodson of Fouke; one son, Thomas Goodson of Morgantown, West Virginia; three foster sons, Russell George of Martinsburg, West Virginia, Mark Jacob of Virginia Beach, Virginia, and Kenneth Monroe of Texas; four daughters, Duska Davis of Illesheim, Germany, Rochale Goodson of Fouke, Ruby Whitehead of Genoa, Arkansas, and Clara Goodson of Fouke; two step-daughters, Marie Bunting of Silver Spring, Maryland, and Jeanie Arciprete of Charlotte Hall, Maryland; two foster daughters, Jerry Murietta and Carmen Pilgreen, both of Maracopa, Arizona; one sister, Flovel McKinney of Waldron; 20 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. SR



Rev. Floyd Goodson

Sunshine Mountain

Cont. from page 21.

do was go to the inlet to the swimming pool and there was all the fresh water we needed. That we had to tote it in jugs and buckets was frustrating, but not disabling.

The fourth day without power we put in a plea to the radio station. Agnes Louise suggested on the air that if someone felt like doing a good deed, the kids at Sunshine Mountain would certainly like some ice and a cold drink. One elderly couple came, and they brought a bag of ice and four gallons of Kool Aid®. Thank you, Rev. and Mrs. Beall. And what was it that Jesus said about giving a cup of cold water to a little one in His name?

When we count our blessings, we never have time enough to get through the list. When countin' our blessin's, however, there's only one. After three bull calves, Miracle finally produced a heifer, and her name is Blessin'. She is two months old, a black and brown Jersey mix, with two white feet and big blue Bambi eyes. She

will eat from your hand like a puppy dog, and has a remarkable talent for escaping from her pen without going through the gate. We never see her do it, only after the fact are we aware of her presence with the rest of the herd. And then there's no Miracle Milk for the kids, 'cus Blessin' got the source first. In due course, the fence refurbishing in process will eliminate that problem. SR

Teacher's corner

Cont. from page 20.

words may be written together on a single card.

I have seven-year-olds who are learning the entire Twenty-third Psalm this way. They love playing the game while learning. The flashcards may be put on "sticky" paper (a strip of sand paper on the back will do) and the verse assembled on a flannelboard. SR

Births

Roberts.—A son, Joshua Adam Roberts, was born to Ben and Dawn Roberts of Syracuse, New York.

Sweet.—A daughter, Nicole Lynn Sweet, was born to Randy and Karen (Roberts) Sweet of Copenhagen, New York.

Boyajian.—A daughter, Natalie Corinne Boyajian, was born to Gregory and Jessica (Bond) Boyajian of Clarksburg, West Virginia, on September 26, 1985.

Greene.—A daughter, Aubrey Jill Greene, was born to Wesley and Martha Greene of Ithaca, New York, on September 27, 1985.

Curry.—A son, William Robert Curry, was born to Dr. Steven and Kathy (Duncan) Curry of Lost Creek, West Virginia, on October 8, 1985.

Called to be witnesses

by Gabriel Bejjani

He was a man of vision and is always quoted. We love his writings. In the Old Testament he gave us his testimony.

I would like you to live moments of this vision with me. Visualize in your mind, the throne of God, with the Seraphims all around, with six wings covering them. This place is the temple filled with smoke, much like a fog. As you look and see the holiness of God, something happens within you. Everyone is rejoicing saying "holy, holy, holy to the name of God." But you feel inadequate, just like Isaiah did.

Look now at Isaiah 6:5f as Isaiah related his vision to us. The first thing that happens to us is we say "woe is me, for I am lost; I am a man of unclean lips and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips, for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of Hosts." It is a reaction of being inadequate to be witnesses to the Lord, the God Almighty. But God takes care of that right away.

Can you see the Seraphims coming with a coal and touching each one of us? They are touching our lips with this burning coal and telling us, "You are okay. I do not want you to have any guilt

and feeling of inadequacy. Your sins are forgiven."

Right after this happens, the punch line comes, and the Lord said, "Whom shall I send and who will go for us?" (v. 8). If you had been experiencing this and heard this, what would be your response? I think every one of us would respond in the same way Isaiah responded. Isaiah said, "Here am I, send me."

We are called, all of us. When we see this vision of the Lord, we say "Here am I, send me." Usually we stop right here in Isaiah, Chapter six. We do not go any further because it is a beautiful message of being called and being sent. But I would like to take you a little further and cover the whole chapter of Isaiah six.

After Isaiah said, "Here am I, send me," the Lord in verse nine said, "go and say to the people...hear and hear, but do not understand. See and see, but do not perceive. Make the heart of this people fat and their ears heavy and shut their eyes lest they see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their hearts and turn and be healed." What a message! If I were to have to give this message, I would feel awful, terrible and discouraged. I would have thought to myself that I should have asked before what the message was. But Isaiah did not ask and the Lord told him what the message was.

I have heard people say how difficult it is to be a witness because people do not listen, and they do not respond. This was a message that was terrible to give. But because Isaiah had already said "I'll do it," he had no choice now he had to go. The logical question Isaiah asks is how long do you want me to do this, Lord? For how long? It is a very logical question. He has already committed himself—he is not going to back off, so now he wants to know how long will he have to preach this message.

The answer from the Lord was even more discouraging to me than the message when I read it. He said, "Until

The Sabbath Recorder

Contrary to what we have heard, our message is to go and preach the kingdom of Christ, and bring the Gospel. The Holy Spirit will take care of converting people to Christ.

cities lie waste without inhabitants, and houses without men, and the land is utterly desolate." In other words, you are going to preach and no one is going to listen. Not only this, but cities are going to be destroyed. Is this not terrible? What a message Isaiah had to bear—*until cities lie waste*. This is one of the reasons in the beginning why I found it so difficult to respond to the call of evangelism, especially to Muslims with whom I worked for over three years, because it is so hard for Muslims to come and accept Christ. They have to change so much from their culture and have to accept so many things that are different. I did not want to do it. I did not want to be like Isaiah in this position—preaching, and no one listening. Because, we want success. We want people to respond and it is difficult when you have to bring the message and people do not respond. But there is hope in this chapter. In verse 13 we read that there are people who will listen and respond. Contrary to what we have heard, our message is to go and preach the kingdom of Christ, and bring the Gospel. The Holy Spirit will take care of converting people to Christ and bringing them to that knowledge. It is not easy, but we are sent into the world.

How do people come to our churches? In what ways do they come? How are we responding to the Great Commission? Let us look at Luke, Chapter 15. Here we have three parables about the lost. The

first one in verses three through seven speaks of the lost as sheep. Ninety-nine were safe and one was lost. In verses 8-10, the lost are illustrated as money. Then in the rest of chapter, in verses 11 to the end, the lost are illustrated as a son who went away. What is the difference between these three categories?

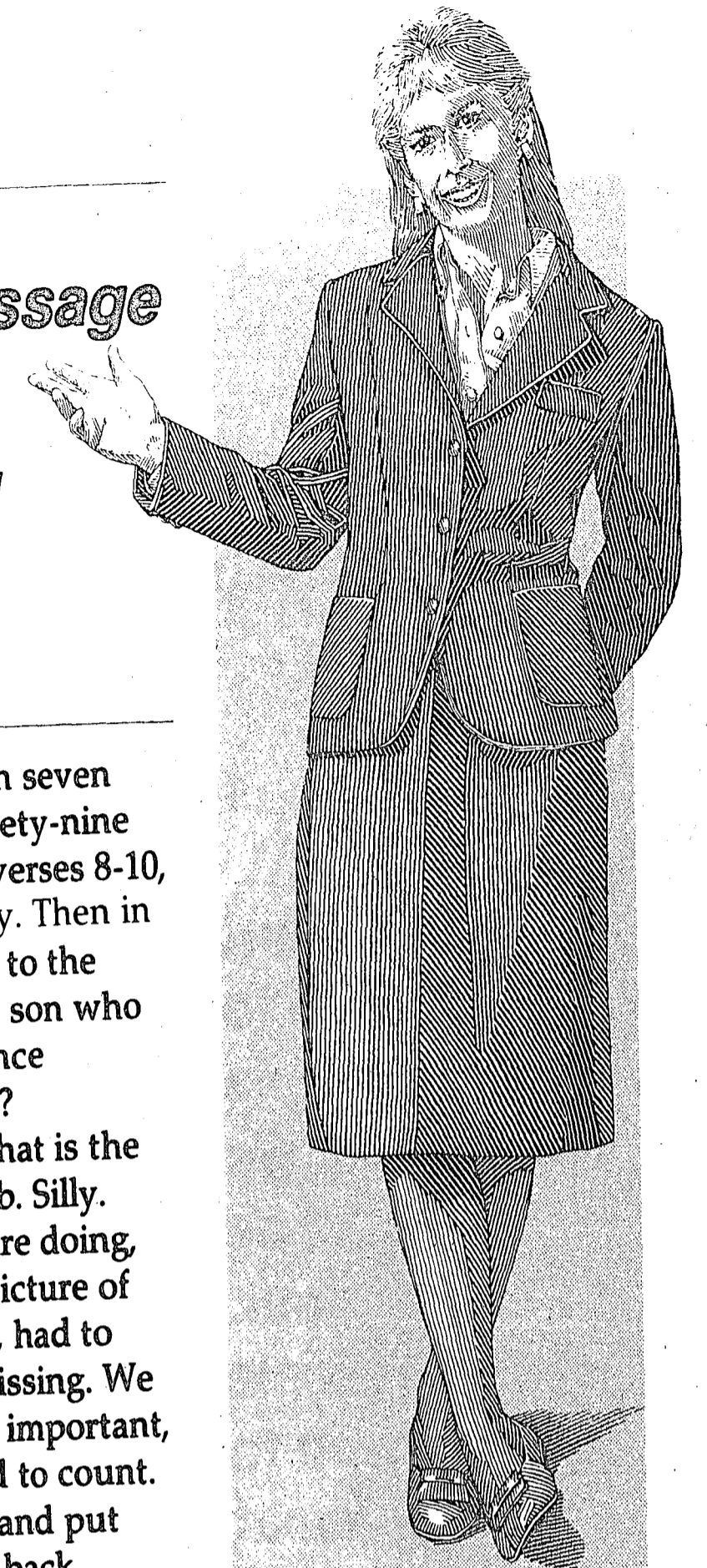
The first one was a sheep. What is the characteristic of a sheep? Dumb. Silly. They do not know what they are doing, and stray away. We have the picture of the shepherd who, by the way, had to count to know that one was missing. We speak of numbers as not being important, but they are important. He had to count. He went and found the sheep and put him on his shoulder and came back.

The second parable that is given is the coin. What is so characteristic about the coin and different from the sheep? Helpless, unable to help himself. Unlike the sheep, he cannot call for help. He was lost where? In the house! What does the house represent to you and me? Of course, the church. Is this telling you something? Do we have a responsibility in the midst of our churches? Amen! There are people right in the middle of the church that are lost, covered with dust and we do not know it, and they cannot yell for help. So we need someone to come and sweep just like this woman

December 1985



*Whom shall I send
and who will go
for us?*



We should not be satisfied to wait for people to seek us. We should be going out, seeking people who need to know about the salvation that is in Jesus Christ.

who swept, until she found that coin.

Let us go to the third example of the lost here. This was a man who made a choice. He chose to go. Then he came back, seeking, after he had experienced everything, and found that he should be back where he belonged, in his father's house.

In what ways do the people come and join us in our churches? By invitation? By example? Love? Yellow Pages? Seekers? Curiosity? Family? I have done some research on this, and found out that the majority of the people in the church I pastor have come through the Yellow Pages, or curiosity seekers, or people that we did not invite. What does this tell you? There were many that were invited and many that were friends and family, but the majority were people that came seeking us. Friends, there is a discrepancy some where. I think if you look in your own churches, you will find the same thing happening. The majority of the people come because they found us through publicity—yellow pages ads. They found us out and they came seeking and that is why they are in our churches. If we depend on that alone, which is what has been happening, then we stay as we are. We need to be sent out to seek them, invite them and bring them in. We have a message worth sharing. If you believe that, you should be out seeking. We have a message worth sharing.

What happens is that we get more problems because those who come seeking us, come with a previous mindset and doctrines that they bring from the churches where they have been dissatisfied. Therefore we get more problems instead of being able to go more and disciple more. We should not be satisfied to wait for people to seek us. We should be going out, seeking people who need to know about this message that we have and the salvation that is in Jesus Christ. Then just like Isaiah did, we must do. Have you counted the cost of discipleship? He counted the cost because he had already made a

commitment. You have to make a commitment, because we are sent. In John Chapter 20, Jesus said, "Just as the Father sent me, I am sending you." He is sending us to go out—not just to have maintenance in our churches.

It hurts me deeply to see that in many cases we are concerned more with the maintenance than the outreach. What is the purpose of your church? I challenge you to read the covenant for your church. Are there purposes specified in that covenant? If so, what are they? Watch over one another, attend regularly the worship services, attend the business meeting, support the church with our finances and abilities, all are very important. But I have not seen one yet that stresses the outreach as much as it stresses these maintenance factors. I challenge you to look at these covenants and specify a purpose. If the Great Commission is our purpose, we need to put it where we can see it and focus on it so we can do the outreach we are supposed to do. We have to have the maintenance. We have to feed our people. We have to teach and disciple. But these should not overshadow the outreach. The outreach is the most important factor. We must have a balance between the outreach and the feeding of ourselves and the maintenance of our work. I am not in any way diminishing the role of the maintenance and the government that we have in our churches. They are important. But I just want to add another one: the outreach that should be there in balance with the others. It is so important to have this.

If you feel this call; if you see the glory of God and you hear God's voice asking "Whom shall I send?" and you feel deeply that you want to say "here am I, send me"; and you have counted the cost, I would invite you to commit yourself to this call. SR

Year End Youth Conference

Nortonville, Kansas
December 26 — January 1

Thursday Night: Get-acquainted night with songs, supper, vespers, games and fellowship. Starts at 6:00.

Friday-Saturday-Sunday-Monday-Tuesday: Classes, meditation, worship, fellowship, food, recreation, and more fun.

For: Senior High (9th grade or 14 years of age) or older.

Bring: (1) \$30.00 to help with food and other expenditures.

(2) Sleeping bag.

(3) Warm clothes (for outside, too!!!!).

(4) Toothbrush, shampoo, etc.

(5) Bibles, musical instruments, and a willingness to study.

(6) Nothing that will detract from our purpose—to study and learn together!

Theme:

DO UNTO OTHERS

Luke 6:31

Name _____ Sex _____ Age _____

Address _____

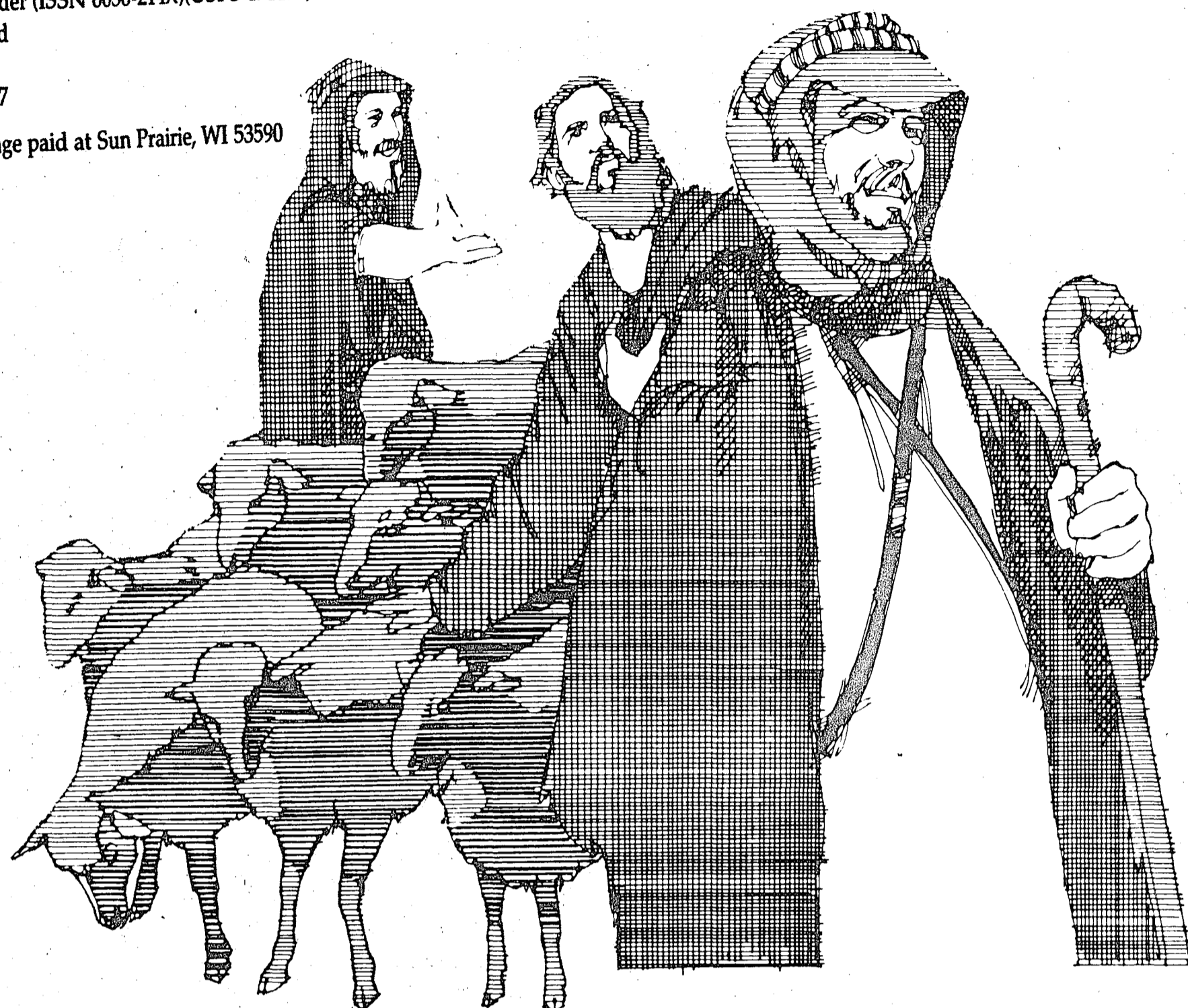
Phone Number _ (____) _____

I give my permission for _____ to be treated in case of an emergency.

Guardian's Signature

Please, try to return registration before December 15. Return to: Kirk Looper, % Seventh Day Baptist Church, Nortonville, KS 66060.

The Sabbath Recorder (ISSN 0036-214X)(USPS 474460)
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Janesville, WI 53547
Second class postage paid at Sun Prairie, WI 53590



O glorious night when Jesus was born
For the darkness of night
Was dispelled by the light
Of God's glory shining on the keepers of sheep.
And the ears of these men were set ringing
By the news that the air waves were bringing,
For an angel was telling of a Baby's birth
And heavenly hosts were speaking of peace on earth
For

"To you a Saviour is born."

Something to Tell

by Mabelle Wiard Willmarth

O glorious night when Jesus was born
For the Babe in the straw,
Whom the shepherders saw,
Is our Prince of Peace and Redeemer of men.
And the sheep men felt, that most wonderful night,
God's love and compassion, His mercy and might.
But slowed, now, were the men on their homeward going
For they must stop, and tell, for all must be knowing
That

"To you a Saviour is born."