



The

S

abbath

News for and about
Seventh Day Baptists

October 1990

R

ecorder

Autumn Days

*Autumn days are wonder days
With colors red and gold,
Summer is gone; fall is here
And the year is growing old.*

*And often do I like to think
That God, with mystic hand,
Has reached down from heaven
And painted all the land.*

—Jennings Randolph

**New videos available from the
SDB Center, Janesville, WI**
(FREE LOAN!! Just pay for return postage.)

The Ingoes in Malawi—
A look at Malawi: Its people and country through the eyes of missionaries Ian and Trudy Ingoe.

Free Eye Clinic Camp in India—Gives highlights of the eye clinic held in India which was sponsored by the SDB Conference of India.

Children's videos
McGee and Me:
Back to the Drawing Board—
Adventure in jealousy
The Big Lie—Adventure in honesty
A Star in the Breaking—Humility
Twister and Shout—Trusting God
Not So Great Escape—Obedience

Christopher Churchmouse
(For home use only):
1) The White Trail
2) Rainy Day Rescue
3) A Load of Trouble



Evangelism film
*Out of the Salt Shaker Into the World—*Rebekah Pippert
Two videos each with two presentations.

**Annual meeting notice
Board of Christian Education**

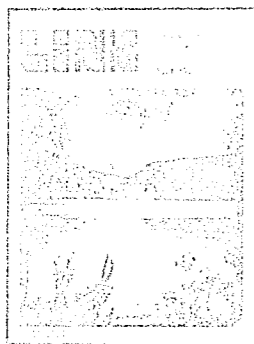
The annual meeting of the members of the SDB Board of Christian Education, Inc. will be held at the Van Horn Office Building, 892 Route 244, Alfred Station, New York, on Sunday, October 28, 1990, at 2 p.m.

The purpose of this meeting shall be to hear and act upon the 1989 annual report of the Board of Directors, to elect members of the Board of Directors, and to consider and act upon such matters that may properly come before said meeting.

Members of Seventh Day Baptist churches entitled to representation in the Seventh Day Baptist Conference are members of the corporation. Accredited delegates at the 1990 Conference in Lindsborg, Kansas, are entitled to vote at this annual meeting.

**Boycott information from our
Conference Committee on
Christian Social Action**

The nationwide chain of K-Mart stores sells, through Waldenbooks, Inc., pornographic materials. Therefore, we RECOMMEND that individual Seventh Day Baptists boycott K-Mart and its subsidiaries (Waldenbooks, Inc.; Payless Drug Stores, N.W., Inc.; Pace Membership Warehouse, Inc.; and Builders Square) until Waldenbooks discontinues selling publications such as Playboy and Penthouse, which undermine the fabric of the family.



Happy Birthday to the
LINK

The quarterly newsletter of Seventh Day Baptists in Australasia is celebrating **10 years** of publication this month.

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The **S**abbath
Recorder



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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.

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Who are Seventh Day Baptists?

If you've never read *The Sabbath Recorder* before, you might be wondering who Seventh Day Baptists are. Like other Baptists, we believe in:

- the saving love of Jesus Christ.
- the Bible as the inspired word of God and a record of God's will for man. The Bible is our authority both for our faith and our daily conduct.
- freedom of thought under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- the congregational form of church government. Every member of the church has the right to participate in the decision making process of the church.

The seventh day

God commanded that the seventh day (Saturday) be kept holy. Jesus agreed by keeping it as a day of worship. We observe the seventh day of the week (Saturday) as God's Holy Day as an act of loving obedience—not as a means of salvation. Salvation is the free gift of God through Jesus Christ.

It is the joy of the Sabbath that makes Seventh Day Baptists just a little bit different. If you would like more information, write: Seventh Day Baptist Center, 3120 Kennedy Road, PO Box 1678, Janesville, WI 53547-1678

Ruminations¹ concerning an endangered species²

by Don Vincent Gray

As Scripture suggests, when a problem arises, "Come, let us reason together."

Whether we are the editor planning a special *Sabbath Recorder* issue, or any of our pastors every Sabbath Day in the pulpit (but especially on "Sabbath Emphasis" occasions), or yours truly, writing a Sabbath-oriented article, we are all similarly confronted.

The problem is: Shall one proceed as a raconteur (teller of stories), as a priest, or as a prophet? That is, #1—Tell nostalgic stories about persons who have stood stoutly for the Cause in other years; or #2—Routinely quote quantities of standard pertinent Scriptures, sometimes leading in unison or antiphonal reading of selected materials; or #3—Attempt to motivate or please the hearers with sheer soaring hubris (bravado) of rhetoric. The first is at best only entertaining; the second may be no more than reading without understanding or responding either mentally or spiritually; the third is downright risky, considering that the speaker depends upon his hearers for some of his bread and butter, his job security and his progress up the ladder of success in his chosen field. Sounds like a typical political (yuk) campaign procedure! Well...here's how *one* worthy handled exactly this type of problem:

Over in chapter 32 of Exodus we learn that Aaron, Moses' younger brother, had what industrial typhoons³ call "business acumen" (savvy). He listened as the thousands of Israelites "demonstrated" in their sprawling campground: "We're tired and bored and hungry! We want a *real* god to worship! In

Egypt, we at least could depend on Pharaoh for food! *Where's Moses?!*"

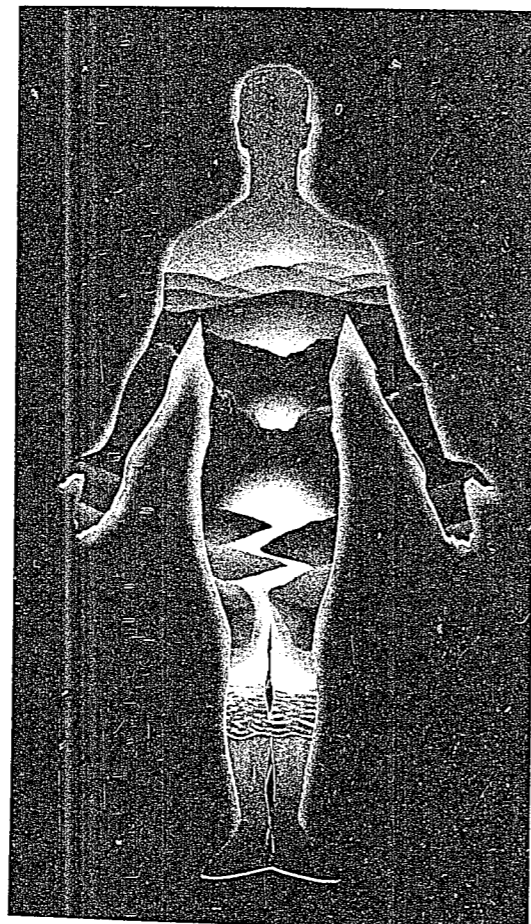
When his finger on the corporate pulse told Aaron that the time was ripe; while Moses was up on Mount Sinai "...lollygagging with Jehovah," (Aaron's phrase), Aaron made his move. Mounting the podium, he harangued the crowd into bringing to him all of their gold (mostly earrings) which they had managed to bring out of Egypt. This he caused to be smelted and poured into a mold. And would you believe?—(Aaron did!)—the mold produced a golden calf, which Aaron promptly set up so the people could worship it, which was exactly what *they* wanted—something touchable.

Surprise, surprise! At that point Aaron became the darling of the masses, which was exactly what *he* wanted! When Moses finally approached the camp, proudly bearing the priceless decalogue stone tablets, religious rites were in full swing, and what he heard sounded like some late-late TV heavy-metal "rock" spectacular, with a cast of thousands.

An old, old story, but disturbingly like what can easily happen today when

a pastor evaluates his congregation, sees in what direction their majority lifestyle is pointing, and (all too often) hurries to get out in front and "lead" them, being careful not to get run over or trampled. Actually, you see, the will of the people usually prevails. Come, let us reason together.

How does all of this relate to the Sabbath? I referred to Moses and the decalogue, in which the Sabbath is item #4. So much has been said about this powerful #4 dictum



that by now most people are frankly turned off by it—and no wonder, since in these times people recoil from the mere mention of discipline,⁴ believing that it is a restraint—imposed. Often quoted in support of this attitude is Jesus' statement (Mark 2:27), "The Sabbath was made for man—not man for the Sabbath."

"Aha!" thinks the beleaguered parishioner and/or the harried pastor—"A loophole! Look! It says right here; 'A man may do whatever he pleases on the Sabbath—the Sabbath isn't like a mold into which one is poured!'"

Try reading with this flavor instead: "The Sabbath is made for (the benefit of) man." "Remember to keep it holy" (Exodus 20:8). Then the picture changes. *Think* about it. What a priceless opportunity—how seldom grasped, appreciated, used. Like all of the other parts of the Moral Code it is not merely to be "observed," but to be woven firmly into the fabric of Life. It is there for

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a purpose which is eminently relevant for these 1990s. Its purpose is to renew, to "settle," to mend, to heal, to illuminate, so that *as we are keeping it* we perceive, in sharper definition, all of the other elements of the Code. The Sabbath is God's steady Hand on the tiller, keeping us on a true course.

We live in an era when Hypertension is the name of the game. One of its results is heart disease (number one killer); it is brought on or aggravated by the use of beverage alcohol and other over-the-counter or prescription drugs. We the general populace are running scared, gulping unbelievable amounts of diuretics for high blood pressure, sedatives and antacids to quiet our burning stomachs. Down the road a bit we may encounter stomachic or duodenal ulcers, complete with perforations. Bad news! Deeply depressed, we may seek out a psychiatrist, who (for a fat fee) will hazard a guess as to the reason for our depression. "Computer readout and review of family history seem to indicate that both parents had blue genes." Wrong answer.

As individuals, as Seventh Day Baptists, as a people, we are faced with an identity crisis. We need to rediscover and use what the Sabbath was intended to provide when it was programmed into God's Plan: a steadying, purifying influence; a priceless ingredient in the Divine Mix. (Ps. 46:10) "Be still," He says, "and become convinced of Me." So, where do we begin?

For starters: When social, commercial or political interests beckon with insistent, persuasive fingers, try giving church and related matters prior claim, explaining good-naturedly what other plans we already have for that Day. Use the same procedure in dealing with school or professional competitions or spectator sports.

If one is of necessity a lone (and lonesome) Sabbathkeeper, see to it that the Day is kept special—

inviolable. Fill it with the inspiration of beautiful music, good reading or the afternoon nap one's body and mind have been needing all week. With a note or a phone call, reach out and touch someone long neglected. Visit a shut-in, forgotten person—someone in hospital or rest home.

Young folks like to be active! If we have young children or teenagers, let's plan ahead with them for Sabbaths that begin with church-related priorities for the whole family, and continue with interesting, fun-filled, *non-commercial* pastimes for the remainder of the Day. Invest in a game board, with which we can introduce them to caroms, crokinole, checkers and other games. Do little girls ever play with dolls anymore? Do boys know how to whittle interesting toys? What about a gorgeous, intricate jigsaw puzzle?

Unless we help them, the world stands ready and willing to lead them (and us) in dubious, devious ways. Think about it! Whatever we do, let's avoid becoming "Sabbath Couch Potatoes." Increasingly, TV programs and commercials are not Sabbath-oriented. They will insidiously pump our minds full of sewage.

When we or our young people are deciding on a life's work, or are about to apply for a job or position, let us consider: Will the occupation start right off with Sabbath work as part of the program? Are we prepared to state on our application that we prefer (for religious reasons) *not* to work on Saturdays, having determined to stand firm when we are tested? If we allow it, the secular world will plow us under, but remember, when we are on God's side we are in the Majority.

The apostle Paul, in a letter to the young church in Rome, advised: "Be not *conformed* to this world, but be *ye transformed* by the *renewing* of your minds..." Please, let us try to realize how dependably

effective, how gloriously vital the faithful keeping of the Sabbath Day can be in such a renewing.

Hear the words of William Wordsworth:
"The world is too much with us;
late and soon,
Getting and spending, we lay waste
our pow'rs;
Little we see in nature that is
ours—

We have given our hearts away, a
sordid boon!"

Let us resolve here and now to
lay firm hold on the great blessing
of the Sabbath and our rich heri-

tage in it, and turn the situation
around, so that the lines from
Wordsworth just quoted will no
longer describe us and our predicam-
ent. I believe that we need not be
an Endangered Species unless we
really prefer it that way—structure
it that way. What do *you* believe,
Friend? **SR**

Footnotes

- ¹To muse upon or ponder, repeatedly.
- ²Group having distinctive transmittable characteristic.
- ³"Big winds." (ha)
- ⁴From Latin, "discipuli—students" (Willingly, at Master's feet)



Don Vincent Gray
593 Alley Mill Road
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Do not lay up treasures on earth

by Clarence White

Edna Patton was a hard working and honest Christian who loved the Lord Jesus. She worked hard as a mother, teacher, and shared the Lord with her five children just as the Bible says to train up a child.

Edna was married in 1931 to an alcoholic who made her life as hard as possible. I know, because I am her son, Whitey.

When I was about 7, I had many bad memories of my mother screaming and taking a beating from my father. I always prayed with her about my father but never hated him because I learned about his terrible past of being kidnapped by his own father and hiding out



Edna Patton in her earlier days with son Clarence, on Air Force furlough.

from the law.

In spite of it all, Edna put Jesus first in her life. She would gather the five children together and even carry the young ones two miles to a prayer meeting. She would walk it twice on Sunday because at noon she would have to be home to cook a dinner for her husband (who might not even show up).

She ended the marriage with a divorce after 14 years, even though in those days many people looked down on a woman for being without a man. It hurt her very much, especially when some church people also looked down. Her hard work continued with hauling water and rationing it for baths and washing clothes with a scrub board.

The court ordered her husband to pay child support but he rarely did. Edna needed to work in a factory and pay for child care.

God sent an older man to love and care for Edna and the children. They were able to accumulate some possessions she never had before. After his death, Edna made a will for how these treasures would be distributed after her death.

Edna came to her rest in late 1987. It took over two years with lots of legal fighting before her will got settled. Hate built up between relations and some never speak to each other. How terrible an ending

for something that was to be shared as Edna desired.

It made me think of my last days on this earth and what treasures I may accumulate. I know that many Christians realize that Jesus is coming very soon, and after hearing of our environmental troubles, we must do our best to share our treasures and use them to spread the Gospel to all the world.

As Edna was getting older and in ill health, she could not ride a long way to a Seventh Day Baptist church, but she did keep up with *The Sabbath Recorder*. I would sometimes stop and read it to her on my way home from work.

She loved reading about all the news, and of Sunshine Mountain where two of her grandsons, Thomas and Gary White, had stayed. Thomas has drifted away from the faith, and we would love to hear from him or about him.

A special gift offering has gone to *The Sabbath Recorder* in loving memory of Edna Patton, who worked so hard for God and her family, and wanted only love from her family in return.

As I hear the organ play that beautiful song, "Will there be any stars in my crown," I can't help but picture that Edna will have a few extra shining in hers. **SR**

How singing aids the worshiper

by Juanita Ogden Lambeth

Singing helps to meet sorrow and discouragement; dispels gloom.

Ephesians 5:19 says, "Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord."

And in Colossians 3:16, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God."

Gloom and foreboding destroys courage and weakens effort. A husband 40 years of age dies of a heart attack, leaving a wife and two small boys. A heavy gloom was felt throughout the room. "In the Sweet Bye and Bye" was sung—and a more hopeful outlook took its place.

In the communion service, we read, "and they sang a hymn and went out." I wonder what hymn they sang. Do you think it might have been Psalm 117?

Singing brings peace and calm in troubled times.

Acts 16 gives us an excellent example of how much strength and power is found in singing. Paul and Silas, with their clothes removed, were beaten with many stripes. Their backs were bleeding and sore. They prayed and sang praises to God—at midnight. You know the rest of the story: how the earthquake shook the prison, and the locks fell off the doors; the fright given the jailer, and how Paul and Silas comforted him in his fear. What a night! Later on, the jailer and his entire family were baptized. Then, just before daybreak, the jailer took them home and gave them breakfast. At daylight, the



charges were dropped.

A powerful book was written by a prisoner of war called *In the Presence of Thine Enemies*. He gave much credit to singing. Many prisoners curled up in a fetal position and died, but he came through in great shape because of the church hymns he sang constantly. Christ was there with him, just as he had been with Job in his whirlwind. (Job 38:1) Songs can give us the will to live.

Singing helps teach the Scriptures (Psalms 40:2, 3).

Songs tell about the narrow way and the broad way. Authorities stopped a group of Adventist youth from singing hymns in Rumania. Their song books were taken up and torn apart in their presence. "Those songs are too evangelistic; they will lead people to worship God." That's true! We should never lose sight of the value of song as a means of education. Let there be singing in the home, at the church, in get-togethers, in every situation possible. The right music was made to serve a Holy purpose—to lift the thoughts to that which is pure, noble, and elevating. Sacred music fixes God's work and Word in memory.

Singing helps save our children.

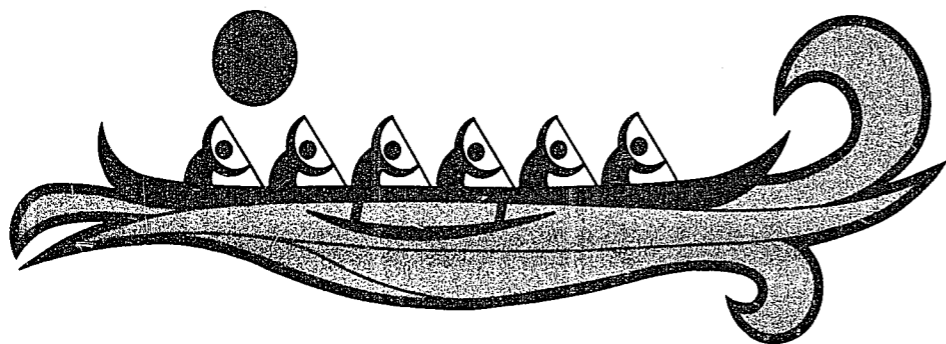
As young people growing up, we often had song fests. We sang hour after hour until we were hoarse. The wisdom in many of those words often showed a profit later on. When tempted to do wrong, how often a certain phrase of a song came to mind. For instance, "I would be true for there are those who trust me."

The word "sing" is given 40 times in the Psalms. We are asked to sing. Sing from the heart. Many times a technically perfect piece of music will leave us cold, while a sincere, but less perfect song may impress one with the love of Jesus. (Isaiah 49:13) Dwell on words such as these: "A wonderful Saviour is Jesus my Lord."

Isaiah 35:10 describes the ransomed who will come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy! When we sing a new song in the new earth, it will probably be "the old, old story of Jesus and his love." Wouldn't you like to know what song the angels sang the night Jesus was born?

How about the song that Paul and Silas sang in prison? Wouldn't you like to ask them?

We can ask some day, if we are faithful followers of Christ. **SR**



Row, row, row your boat

by Douglas Yarberry

"...Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship..." (Matthew 14:22)

Christ had just finished feeding the 5,000. These people had seen this miracle and were surely affected by it. They were convinced that he was the prophet that should come into the world, and in that they were *not* wrong. They *were* wrong in wanting to take him by force and make him a king.

When Jesus saw this, he instructed his disciples to board the ship and cross the little sea to the other side. Meanwhile, he would go up the mountain to pray for all people, even for us. (I would rather have Jesus pray for me than anyone else I know of. He makes intercession for us today. He is at the right hand of the Father, right now.)

Verse 24 of Matthew 14 says, "but the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves for the wind was contrary." Christ had gone upon the mountain. Perhaps he looked down and saw the ship in trouble, but he didn't act immediately. The ship was in the middle of the sea, about three miles from either shore. The Sea of Galilee was, and still is, subject to sudden storms.

Some of the disciples, including

Judas, wanted to make Jesus an earthly king. All were excited about the storm. Even the storm of disappointment was there, and the ship was on a collision course.

The people disappointed in not making him a worldly king would learn he is King of the universe.

Here's the picture now. The ship is in a storm. Remember the disciples left the shore while it was still daylight. The next verse says Jesus came to them in the fourth watch. Roman time divided the day

was the hour the disciples were most desperate.

Too many of us never get serious with Christ until that late hour—when we become most desperate—when our fear reaches its height. Jesus will never come walking on the water of our problems as long as we try to work out our problems by our own knowledge. He may wait for our most desperate hour.

Anytime we, as God's children, allow circumstances and conditions to force our eyes off Christ and his

Unless we have Christ in our ship—and in our church— we will go in a circle.

into four watches and the night into four watches, each watch three hours long. The fourth watch would be the last part of the night.

This ship had left shore before dark. Christ comes to them in the fourth watch. Three watches have gone by. Friends, they have spent over nine hours going *no-where!* Just going around and around! These people were experienced seamen, but they could not cope with this. They could go nowhere without Jesus Christ.

Why did Jesus wait until the fourth watch to come? Because that

truths, we will be in trouble. The disciples had a command to go over to the other side, but they let the storm get in their way. They forgot the command and took their eyes off of the Savior. This is very dangerous. It is impossible for us to keep our eyes on Jesus and, at the same time, have them on the things of this world.

Many of these men were fishermen by trade, Peter included. There is no doubt that they were very familiar with the ship, the water, and the storm. The point is: unless we have Christ in our ship—

and in our church—we will go in a circle. *We will go nowhere.*

These disciples had a mission, but there they were in a ship, *rowing and rowing, but going nowhere*—around and around to *nowhere*.

The church is the spiritual ship. Did you know it is possible for us to be leaders in the church—ordained ministers, teachers, and lay members—and sink in familiar waters? It's possible for us to be acquainted

with God's ship and His message, and still sink.

In John 6:19-21, we are told that the disciples saw Jesus walking on the sea toward them, and they were afraid. Then Jesus uttered the most beautiful words ever spoken: "But he said unto them, 'It is I; be not afraid.'" Note verse 21: "Then they willingly received him into the ship, and immediately the ship was at the land whither they went."

Isn't that wonderful!

If we do not have Jesus in our ship, our church, and our home, we just row and row, and we go nowhere. We have no direction unless Jesus is aboard.

When my time is finished and the tide rises around me, I want to hear that voice saying, "It is I; be not afraid." Immediately, I'll be safe on that other shore.

Shouldn't we all yearn to hear those beautiful words, "It is I; be not afraid"? **S_R**

Two open letters

Love Begets Smallness?

A creed is a brief statement of beliefs. No creed but Christ! Who needs more?

The Southern Baptists are still fighting over their own simple, "No creed but the Bible." To them it is complicated. Some believe the Bible has some errors and fables, while the majority voting claim that it is without error and literally true in detail. What I don't understand is if they believe it, why not do it?

Chapter two of Genesis in every translation tells that God rested on the seventh day, that He blessed that day and made it Holy as a commemoration of creation. In the Ten Commandments God "re-minded" Israel about the seventh day, and these laws are everlasting, written on the hearts of every Christian (Jer. 31:33; Rom. 2:16).

The seventh day remains as in its origin (Ex. 31:17; 16:23) a rest day, as well as a sign (Eze. 20:12) between God and His people—spiritual Israel or Christians. It is mentioned for the future in Isaiah 66:23. God said, "In vain they worship me, teaching as doctrines the traditions of men" (Matt. 15:9). Commemorating Sunday, the first day, is just one manmade tradition.

However, all Baptists are not the same. Seventh Day Baptist doctrines follow no traditions of men. The doctrines of covenant between us are the simplest and most basic, emphasizing freedom of thought provided by Christ and His Spirit. Christ is our only creed and we have nothing serious to fight about. Could that be the reason we remain a small denomination?

Sincerely,

William E. Baer, Anniston, AL

(I sent this letter to editors of two of our newspapers which address the on-going fight within the Southern Baptists—WEB)

Faith

It seems to take years to reach religious convictions, or at best a workable philosophy to live by. I have gone through trial and error, despair, and even a harsh rejection as I have followed false paths. Finding myself at dead ends, and then retreating, shedding ideas, to discard or keep thoughts—to rest and wait.

Then, a new spark is touched off in me. Something someone says, a moving experience, another book (of the endless procession I have already read), and off I go again. But each time I am a little more secure and less likely to grope and search in vain.

Finally, what evolves is a special combination of values and beliefs that has not been in anyone else before—and can't be transplanted to any other. If it brightens my day, my joy of living, makes me a better person, and most of all, holds me in the times of trouble—that is the true test.

I don't think anybody is truly happy or contented until they have worked out some private pattern, not only for getting along with people, but for getting along with *God*.

In His love and ours,
Connie Green, Crosby, ND

Developing a church library

by Judy Fatato

Our church library in Battle Creek, Michigan, was like many: filled with books that were never used because a topic or title could not be located. Some had attempted to organize the library, but when new shelves were built for the room (also a Sabbath School classroom), the books were taken out and then put back in a haphazard manner. It was hopeless!

I hope our experience of redoing the church library will help others in their organization efforts.

The first thing we recommend is to empty the shelves of all current books and check each one. There may be many which are outdated or in poor condition that you do not wish to keep. This is not to say to throw away old books because they are old, but rather, because their content may pertain only to an era or thought period that is no longer of any use.

After each book is checked, group them in piles in your work area according to subject. Because of our relatively small size, rather than using the Dewey decimal system, we classified books by about 20 topics, from Christian living to healing, money, biography, Christian education, Bible study, prayer, etc. Sometimes it takes more than reading the title to determine the subject of the book; the jacket cover, table of contents, and introduction will all give additional clues. You will find that you reclassify books more narrowly as all the books come to light.

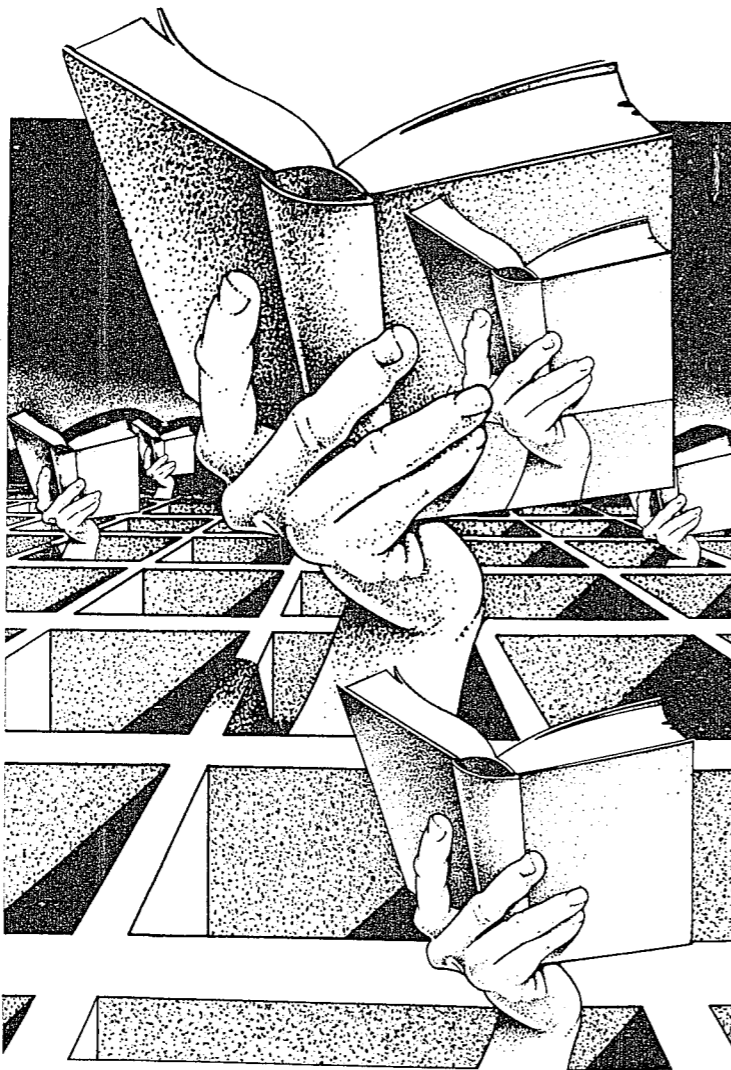
Once all the books have been sorted and categorized, make a list in each subject by title and author, alphabetized by author, leaving plenty of space between lines. This is the shelf list which names every book in the collection. When we discovered several books by the

same author, we also made a separate list of titles grouped by author. This is useful when considering new books, to know what is already available and avoid duplication, unless it's intended.

Then use purchased library cards and card pockets (available from your local Christian bookstore or teachers/educational supply store) to prepare the books for borrowing. Glue in the pockets, stamp the pocket with the church

name and address and, in one corner, write the subject area in which you have categorized the book. Prepare the borrowing card with the author and title, plus write the appropriate subject area in the upper corner.

When this is done for all books, you are ready to arrange the books on the shelves. Label each shelf or section according to the subject it holds. Keep the most widely used subjects (e.g., Christian living)



readily seen at eye level and easily available to peruse and check out. Those subjects not used as often can be placed on higher or lower shelves. Be sure to place the books alphabetically by author within each subject area. As new books or materials are purchased, they are added to the shelf list, prepared and placed in the same manner.

Obtain two card files for good record keeping in the library. One is to hold the cards after books are checked out. This is divided according to the week books are due: Week I—1st through 7th of the month, Week II—8th through 15th, etc. The second file contains alphabetized cards of the names of all library users. Each card contains the family name, address, phone number, and then each individual family member's name, next to a column noting the calendar year (two or three years may fit on a card). When an item is checked out of the library, we mark the user card by the appropriate name under the appropriate year, and then the actual book card is placed in the return file according to the date due. In a spiral notebook, we also keep a record of each week's activity as to number of books borrowed. Our library has cassette and video tapes available so the number of these checked out per week is also noted, and on the user card the type of material borrowed is noted as well.

With these records, it is easy to see how many people use the library, to be aware of people using the library for the first time, and know how much material is circulating. This information will help justify your budget request. Our library comes under the auspices of our local Board of Christian Education. The board has asked for—and the church has granted—a budget item for purchases. Other fund raising comes from donations, honorariums, and fines in a limited way, but "Bottles for Books" is a big

help. People bring their soda cans to a collection barrel and let the library turn them in for the refund. Some Christian bookstores also offer premiums; you can encourage your members to use these with their purchases.

Library policies may vary. The content of the material we accept must have a Christian theme, ruling out some things that are perfectly fine but available elsewhere. We lend out books for one month, video and cassette tapes for one week. Items may be renewed if no one is waiting for them. People with overdue material are contacted in person or by phone with a gentle reminder. Occasionally, items do get lost; expect it. Donations are asked for, but not required, on overdue or lost material. Anyone can use our library, but those who are not regular attenders have their church friend's name placed on their user file card so there is a known contact. Our library is open anytime the church is open, and the check out policy is noted very simply on a sign so the librarian need not be present.

It is nice to have the library close to a high traffic area. It is preferable that the room not double as a Sabbath School or closed meeting room because then it is not available for browsers who may come early or late to services. A library can function well without these benefits, but it is imperative to keep it neat, with items reshelfed regularly and book processing and record keeping up to date. A children's book section is a big boost to usage, and parental supervision of check out helps in prompt returns.

The key to a successful library is *publicity*. Keep the pastor informed of new books purchased, and of the subjects and authors available. The library may be used as an additional resource in sermon preparation. If the library has material on the topical series, show the pastor

what is available and ask that it be mentioned to the congregation from the pulpit. For small study groups or Sabbath School classes, show the leaders/teachers what is available in the library for reference material in their lesson preparation, and ask that they recommend additional reading to their class group. Committee chairmen or ministry leaders should also be made aware of the library inventory in their interest area.

Use bulletin and newsletter announcements of new titles added to the library. Also in the church newsletter, publish a librarian's column and short book reviews by the librarian and other readers. Have a book display on a table in the main social gathering area. And, in the library itself, display new purchases for three or four weeks before shelving them. Book fairs and reading contests are other possibilities.

Happy reading! *SR*

Some additional resources:

The Church Librarian's Handbook
by Betty McMichael

How to set up a library; all-around reference book

DEMCO, Box 7488 Madison, WI 53707-7488

Library supplies: paper, furniture, publicity, incidentals

Evangelical Church Library Association, P.O. Box 353, Glen Ellyn, IL 60138-0353

Quarterly magazine of promotion ideas, book reviews, etc.

Videos at discount prices

Miller Film and Video Library, 3144 McCracken St., Muskegon, MI 49441

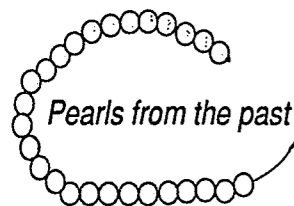
Video Dynamics, P.O. Box 9550, Jackson, MS 39206

Books at discount prices

Christian Book Bargains, P.O. Box 1009, 105 Wade Dr., Dover, OH 44622

Christian Book Distributors, Box 3687, Peabody, MA 01961-3687

Great Christian Books, 1319 Newport Gap Pike, Wilmington, DE 19804-2895



Pearls from the past

Elizabeth Brand Claton: Pioneer wife

by Ilou M. Sanford

"...rode over to the Claton settlement."

"...Nov. 1822...from thence I went among the Clatons in Warren Co., 5 mi. below Lebanon. Here are 3 other families of Seventh Day Baptist people who are like sheep without a shepherd..."

"In 1825, this Morrow settlement was seemingly broken up and only the Lebanon branch was left. This was 7 mi. nearer Lebanon than the main church at Todd's Fork. Here resided Jonathan Claton, James Claton, John Claton and James Hill..."

Thus read the journals of itinerant missionaries giving rise to



a mythical Claton realm sheltered among the picturesque hills of southern Ohio. The archives in Janesville produced a photograph; a scraggly overgrown cemetery, weathered tombstones askew, with a vintage school in the background, labeled S. Lebanon, Oh., 1938.

Foremost in the group was Elizabeth Claton, wife of Thomas, d. Feb. 14, 1827, age 77 years. The valley had been flooded leaving the cemetery in even worse repair. It was enough to set any historically inclined snooty nose to twitching. *Who was she? What was she doing so far from known Seventh Day Baptist areas?*

Genealogies soon proved her to be Elizabeth Brand, born in Squan, New Jersey, in 1748, the daughter of William and Elizabeth Davis Brand and the granddaughter of Wm. Davis. Thomas Claton's religious antecedents were harder to determine. Early records reveal three Richard Clatons belonging to the Nottingham, Pennsylvania, SDB Church in 1726-1770. James Claton stated in 1899 that his grandfather, Thomas, emigrated from Claton Square, Manchester, England, about 1770 and settled in New Jersey. It is questionable whether the Clatons were Sabbathkeepers in England; however, when Thomas married Elizabeth "Rosa" Brand (ca. 1765), his religious choice was obvious.

The Clatons were not in the first wave of Seventh Day Baptist immigrants moving from Shrewsbury, New Jersey, to Harrison County in Western Virginia in 1789, but they were there by 1794 when Thomas was named trustee to the town of New Salem. In

1795, Thomas was listed as a trustee of the new meeting house. He and Elizabeth were baptized and joined the New Salem church in 1801.

The Treaty of Greenville in 1795 opened up "free" Ohio lands to small purchasers such as Thomas

She followed her man across 1,000 miles of uncharted Indian-infested wilderness.

and his sons, William, Jonathan, and Maxson. In 1806 he yielded to "Ohio fever" and left the relative security of Fort New Salem to cross the wide Ohio to found the Claton settlement, a branch of the Todd's Fork Seventh Day Baptist Church in Warren County.

There ended the life of Elizabeth Brand Claton who followed her man across 1,000 miles of uncharted Indian-infested wilderness, losing three of her 11 children in infancy, and her eldest son, David, to the Indians.

Even in death she knew no peace, for the old cemetery in the middle of an old-fashioned town, its unremodeled homes set flush to the sidewalks of narrow winding streets, has been made into a playground. Her tombstone and those of her three babies have been moved to a sun-warmed, serene wooded area on an isolated southwest slope of the big cemetery on Snook Road. **SR**

Ilou Sanford is the wife of Historian Don Sanford.



SR Almanac

Where we have been...

One year ago—October 1989

Special outreach issue explains Seventh Day Baptist Distinctives. This reprint of an earlier booklet is still available at .25 for your outreach efforts.

Five years ago—1985

Pastor William Sharon, Wichita Falls, Texas, presents his ordination statement.

African Secretary A.K. Harawa and Missionaries David and Bettie Pearson report on northern Malawi field trip.

Well projects continue in India.

Bronislaw Ciesielski selected as president of the Polish Conference.

History of Camp Joy, West Virginia, outlined.

10 years ago—1980

Coverage continues of General Conference sessions in Denver, Colorado.

New official SDB logo is adopted.

Rev. Earl Cruzan enters "retirement"—with evangelistic outreach program in Wisconsin and Illinois.

North Jersey church changes name to Raritan Valley.

Columbus, Ohio, church begins ministry to retired people with purchase of a van.

SDB church near Port Elizabeth, South Africa, under construction.

New "Light Bearers for Christ" musical team formed in Paint Rock, Alabama.

25 years ago—1965

The Planning Committee, chaired by General Secretary Alton Wheeler, holds a long and "profitable" meeting in Plainfield, New Jersey.

Pastoral changes announced: Don Richards from Dodge Center, Minnesota, to Verona, New York; Elmo Fitz Randolph from Milton, Wisconsin, to Boulder, Colorado; Kenneth Van Horn from New Auburn, Wisconsin, to Little Rock, Arkansas.

Crites Mountain, West Virginia, mission church log cabin dedicated.

Pastor-evangelist Paul Osborn begins work in Kansas City.

SDBs involved with evangelistic efforts at the World's Fair in New York City.

Retiring Missionary Society President Harold Crandall thanked for 23 years of service.

50 years ago—1940

Dr. Grace Crandall visits China and reports on the medical ministry.

"Church Loyalty Days" take on new meaning during the world wars.

In the absence of a pastor, 12 young people willingly take turns in arranging worship services and reading sermons on Sabbath mornings in Fouke, Arkansas.

Rev. Neal Mills provides the daily meditations for this month.

One politician advises before voting: listen, read, and study both sides. *The Recorder* adds: PRAY.

75 years ago—1915

"Missionary Society Number" completes series of special issues focusing on Conference agencies.

Rev. G.M. Cottrell, secretary for Lone Sabbath Keepers in the *Recorder*, defines the L.S.K. classifications.

Great prohibition rally held Thursday evening at General Conference in Milton. Kansas Governor Arthur Capper sends prohibition message and addresses the theme, "The Stainless Flag."

Rev. Ira Goff ordained to Gospel ministry.

Rev. George B. Shaw announces resignation from North Loup, Nebraska, pastorate.

Report from International Lord's Day Congress includes talk, "Foes of Sunday Rest Laws." The subtopic, "Seventh Day People," mentions that "Seventh Day Baptists are a very small and waning people. It is hardly worth while to consider them in this connection." Jews were treated favorably, while the Adventists were attacked.

...where are we headed?

Pray...

•for our future!

MORE 2000, health and growth, new pastors and missionaries, exciting outreach efforts, more praise and glory to God!



Women's Society page by Charlotte Chroniger

New officers ready to serve

"Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit. And there are varieties of ministries but the same Lord. And there are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons." (1 Cor. 12:4-6 NASB)

The Seventh Day Baptist women of New Jersey have been called upon to use their God-given gifts to provide leadership and direction for the SDB women across the United States and Canada. These same women must make decisions

Donna Bond is the newly elected president. Donna, husband Tim, and their two children are active members of the Shiloh church. Donna is a homemaker currently looking for a job outside the home. She enjoys music and sewing, and currently indexes *The Sabbath Recorder* while at home. She has served on an SCSC team in past years and, before her marriage, was secretary in *The Sabbath Recorder* office.

Ruth Probasco is the new vice president. She and her husband

of the Shiloh church and also spends time doing volunteer work at a local hospital.

Marie Davis is the new treasurer. She brings much experience to the position as she has worked 17 years for Young Men's Savings and Loan Association. She is a member of the Marlboro church.

I am Charlotte Chroniger, the new editor of the Women's Page. Besides feeling a little anxious about following in the footsteps of Marilyn Merchant, who did such a great job as editor for the past six years, I occupy my time supporting my husband Don (who is pastor of the Shiloh church) and caring for our four young children. Before seminary, I taught elementary vocal music, and since seminary I have enjoyed a music ministry in the churches we serve. There are other women who will be serving in various capacities through the Women's Board, and you'll be hearing about them in future issues.

We, the new officers, are here to represent you and to serve you. We need your thoughts, concerns, dreams, ideas, and prayers. Before Conference, each of your churches should have received a letter from me regarding information for our local Benevolent Society programs called "Getting to Know You." We want to get to know the women we are serving, so each month we will learn about the different women in the different churches across the denomination. As we bring our varieties of interests, backgrounds, and spiritual experiences, we can rejoice in the fact that we all serve the same Lord.

Let me hear from you! *SR*

Charlotte Chroniger, P.O. Box 145,
Shiloh, NJ 08353
Marie Davis, RD 3, Box 291,
Bridgeton, NJ 08302



Our new Women's Society officers (l. to r.): Marie Davis, treasurer; Helen Cruzan, secretary; Ruth Probasco, vice president; and Donna Bond, president.

regarding current and future ministries, decisions about the use of funds that will be coming in for the various projects, and decisions that must reflect our commitment to serve the Lord and to serve our denomination's women.

It is an awesome responsibility, but one that we are looking forward to fulfilling as we seek God's guidance and direction and wisdom. Please pray for all of us as we begin a new challenge in a new decade. May Jesus Christ be honored and glorified through the Women's Board.

Owen (who is president of the Memorial Board) are the parents of four grown children and grandparents to six (not including the other children they are grandma and pop-pop to). Ruth has a BA in health education and school nursing, and serves several area schools. She is an active member of the Shiloh church.

Helen Cruzan is the new Women's Board secretary. Although retired, Helen keeps busy with her family, including husband Bert, two grown children, and five grandchildren. She is a deaconess

The President's Page

The joy of obedience

by Althea Rood



Althea Rood

The word "obedience" carries with it many negative connotations. However, I believe that obedience is joyful.

that it's for our own good. Then obedience becomes joyful because of our experience.

It's just like Jesus said, "If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and

remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete." (John 15:10, 11)

May God give each of us a "heart after Him" that desires to do His will and in His way! *SR*

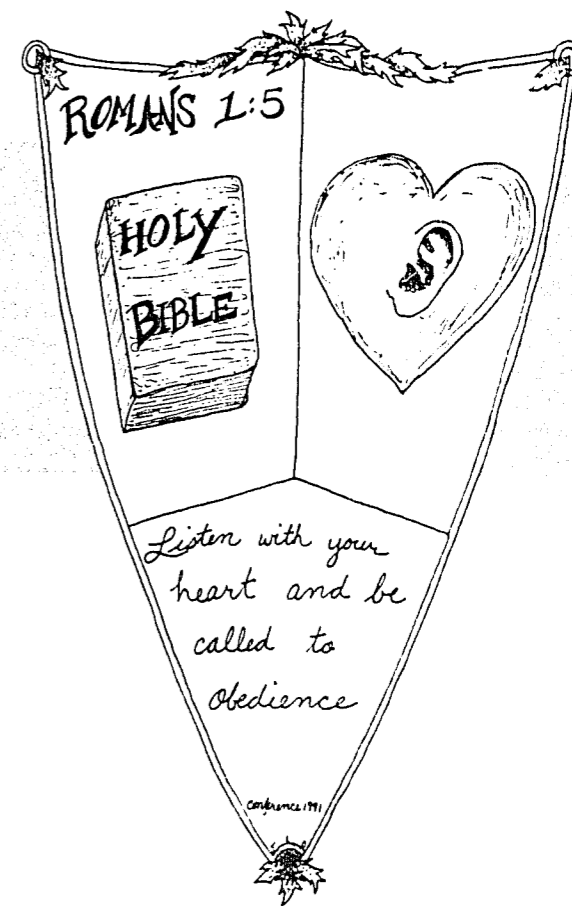
The word "obedience" carries with it many negative connotations. However, I believe that obedience is joyful.

Whenever I think of obedience the following illustration comes to mind:

A little boy and his dad were going for a ride. The boy climbed into the front and stood in the middle of the seat. When his dad asked him to be seated, the little boy reluctantly complied but said, "I may be sitting down on the outside, but inside I'm still standing up."

How often is our reaction like the boy—obedient but defiant? The key to joyful obedience is in our perspective. From the father's perspective, the boy's sitting down was not meant to be unpleasant. It was to protect him from harm and allowed him to buckle up. In other words, it was for the boy's own good.

Our obedience to God is very much like that. Sometimes we start to obey just because we have to; because our Father told us to. However, we eventually discover





Christian Education

1990 Scripture Memorization Program

The Scripture Memorization Program for the 1989-90 year featured President Joe Samuels' theme, "All One in Christ Jesus." The Sabbath School Committee of the Board of Christian Education selected monthly Scripture verses for Primary, Junior, and Youth/Adult age groups. Sabbath School students who completed the program were presented certificates at the General Conference sessions in Lindsborg, Kansas.

Alfred Station, NY

Mae Bottoms

Black Hills, SD

Steven Graffius

Boulder, CO

Charity Heath

Columbus, OH

Helen Bond
Aubrey Greene
Brett Greene
Summer Holmes
Marge Patrick

Daytona Beach, FL

Faith Camenga
Grace Camenga
John Mark Camenga
Nathan Crouch
Richard Crouch

Hebron, PA

Edna Gaines

Imalone Fellowship, WI

Rhonda Smalley

Lost Creek, WV

Margaret B. Allen
Stanley K. Allen
Roberta Ash
Adrienne Austin
Justin Austin
Betty Bond
Chet Bond

Nichole Bond

Susan Davis Bond
Tiffany Bond

Jamey Bonnett

Jodi Bonnett
Jennifer Boyajian
Jessica Boyajian
Rebecca Boyajian
Johnny Curry
Amy Davis
April Davis
Martha Davis
Brent Fenstermacher
Carrie Fenstermacher
Denise Fenstermacher
Joey Fenstermacher
Rick Fenstermacher
Blaine Fincham
Jason Fincham
Jennifer Fincham
Linda Fincham
Jerry Garrett
Susan Garrett
Jennie Hall
Rita Hickok
Melissa Holt
Bridget Lawrence
Cynthia Lawrence
Luke Lawrence
Mary Beth Lawrence
Lorna Perry
Leora Pinder
Chad Randolph
Phyllis Randolph
Rex Randolph
Dawsalee Rymer
Pastor David Taylor
Dina Taylor

Marlboro, NJ

Sharon Davis
Cynthia Dickinson
Rachel Merritt
Tobey Miller

Miami, FL

Brian Johnson
Alrich Lynch
Jasmine J. Lynch
Craig Miller
Louise Miller
Andrew Samuels

Milton, WI

Lucile Todd

Pawcatuck, RI

Juianne Grove

Raritan Valley, NJ

Pastor Jeanne Yurke

Richburg, NY

Ruth Bottoms
Rebecca Browning
Steven Browning
Elaine Brundage
John Brundage
Roxanne Brundage
Susie Bucher
Lydie Cartwright

Duane Taylor

Margaret Taylor
Pastor Edgar Wheeler
Xenia Lee Wheeler
Leonard Williams

Robert Cartwright

Sue Cartwright
Vivian Cass
Willard Cass
Monica Cunha
Carla Fellers
Alta Irish
William Irish
Maurice McCrea
Wesley McCrea
Eric Pitts
Jamie Pitts
David Ritcher
David Saunders
Irene Saunders
Jonathan Saunders
Onnalee Saunders
Pastor Stephan Saunders
Robert Stohr

Salemville Bell, PA

Lois Fletcher

Seattle, WA

Maude Posey

Shiloh, NJ

Elizabeth Bidwell
Donna Bond
Jan Bond
Karla Forte

Verona, NY

Melanie Fink
Helen Green
Joanne Johnson
Pastor Russell Johnson
Mayola Warner

Verona, NY

Melanie Fink
Helen Green
Joanne Johnson
Pastor Russell Johnson
Mayola Warner



FOCUS on Missions

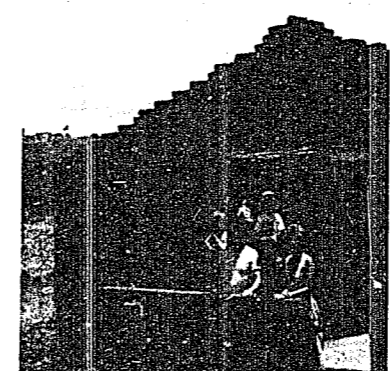
by Leon R. Lawton

Junction City, Kansas, USA

Many Seventh Day Baptists from around the country became acquainted with one of the newest branch churches and the closest SDB group to the General Conference site—Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kansas—in August. Extension Pastor and Mrs. Steven James and family welcomed many visitors at their services on July 28 and August 4. The Junction City branch is sponsored by the Nortonville, Kansas, church.

Missionary Ian Ingoe, Malawi, Africa

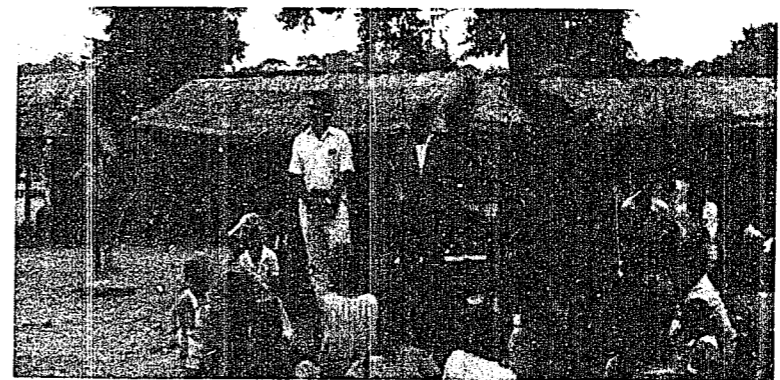
Missionary Ian Ingoe keeps more than busy with spiritual ministries to the churches and pastors in addition to construction



supervision. His July report tells of services at SDB churches in Kasenje in the Central Region, Chipungu (over an hour walk from Makapwa), and a special meeting with the Malawian Makwinja SDB Church (not part of the Central Africa Conference).

Ian also wrote, "We were at Makapwa for the Women's Association meeting where Trudy gave a talk on the women's role in the church. We also interviewed (with medical administrator Royal J.B. Mkandawire) a medical assistant as we are short staffed at all our clinics. The next day I visited a funeral of a Makapwa school teacher, aged 29, who left two small children. Cause of death unknown. The deaths in and around Makapwa are becoming so regular the women's meetings were affected. On the Sabbath we visited Monchere, a branch of Thomas, and I baptized 15 people into Christ. Five others were turned down as they were very young. On Sunday we went to Bale Hill to sort out a problem concerning tithes. I understand Paul's letters a little more

Left: The Ingoes at the new Chipho Clinic building (now completed). Below: Ian Ingoe giving a devotional at Thomas, with Administrator Royal Mkandawire translating.



after seeing some of the human faults within His church. I also visited Thembe the same day. After having the Nissan in for service early in the week we went to Chipho where the work is nearing completion on the maternity and staff houses. The next weekend Pastor Harawa and I spent at Nkhotakota where a strong leader is needed for a growing group. The Lord is wonderful but we must all pray that He gives us more workers for the harvest."

Brooklyn, New York, USA

The New York City SDB congregation is dedicating their new house of worship at 1904 Fulton Ave., Brooklyn, New York, on Sunday, October 14. They again have their own place of meeting since relocating from the Bronx. Extension Pastor Richard Evans will be fulfilling the time period under this plan in 1990.

West Africa—Nigeria and Ghana

SDB local churches and individuals in the United States continue to receive letters from school children and church leaders asking for financial help, Bibles, etc. Several have referred such letters to the Missionary Board office, which is wise. We have learned from long experience that not all such requests are valid. It is our policy to refer such to leaders in sister SDB churches in the area for their follow-through. In the last two years this has resulted in some new churches affiliating with the SDB Conference in Nigeria. But most of the student requests are not valid. Your Missionary Board office is willing to counsel and serve IF you let us.



the BEACON

Produced by the Youth Committee of the Board of Christian Education
For and by members of the SDB Youth Fellowship

October 1990

1991 officers of the SDBYF of USA and Canada

The new officers for the Seventh Day Baptist Youth Fellowship of United States and Canada were elected to the executive committee

at the YF business meeting in Lindsborg, Kansas.

President—Kimberly Ann Gesner
Kim is a former Alfred Station YF president and an active member of the Alfred Station (New York) church. She is a member of her church's choir and chime choir and has attended General Conference each year since Arkadelphia, Arkansas (1985), except this year.

Kim is a second year ceramic engineering major at Alfred University, Alfred, New York. Last year she was named Freshman Honor Student and inducted into Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society. She juggled four jobs this past summer: a lab technician in a glass science laboratory, assembler and

apprentice printer for a local print shop, secretary for a local business, and waitress on a 500-passenger dinner boat.

Vice president—David Saunders
David is a member of the Richburg (New York) church and its YF president. He is head usher of his church and has taught in the Richburg Vacation Bible School. He was active in Association camping and youth retreats.

David graduated from Houghton, New York, Academy in 1990 and is a freshman at Houghton College. While in the Academy he was active in the choir, vocal ensemble, and handbell choir.

Secretary-treasurer—Amy Elizabeth Palmer
Amy is a member of the Alfred Station church and is active in its choir and chime choir. She was in Summer Christian Service Corps in 1987, and a recreation assistant for Children's Conference in 1988.

Amy is a second year student at State University of New York at Alfred. She is a member of the Alfred State Concert Band and involved in student theater productions. She works in her spare time at The Gallery and Crandall's Jewelers in Alfred. Amy was a summer radio music director at Alfred University's WALF Radio.



Kim Gesner



David Saunders



Amy Palmer

The Children's Page

Read the story of Joshua and Jericho (in the Old Testament, Joshua 6:1-21) and then color the page.



New ordination guidelines

"Ordination has been practiced by Christians since New Testament times. In different eras and in different churches, it has assumed different characteristics. Seventh Day Baptists practice ordination of pastors and missionaries as a formal dedication, a setting apart for service. It is ordination to a task. It is putting the stamp of the church's approval on the inward call of God which the ordinand professes and of trust in him as a servant." (See *Manual of Procedures*, page 54.)

In the past, the ordination process for Seventh Day Baptist pastors involved ordaining pastors whom we knew most of their lives. Today, this is not necessarily the case. Seventh Day Baptists are adding new pastors and new churches almost every year. Many of these new pastors are in church planting situations that have no close ties with other SDB churches.

Presently, the Director of Pastoral Services of the Council on Ministry works with pastors and churches in the ordination process. Most often pastors and churches are well prepared for the Ordination Council. However, this may not always be the case.

The 1990 General Conference approved a new preparatory step in the ordination process, the Ordination Preparation Committee. General Conference also added the guideline that the final vote for the ordination candidate would be the responsibility of the local church. Below, the normal type represents the former ordination procedure, while the bold italic represents the new changes.

Review of the ordination process

1. Local church calls the candidate to examination.
2. Ordination candidate prepares his/her credentials.

3. Ordination Preparation Committee of the Association examines the credentials of the candidate and makes a recommendation to the local church.

4. Ordination Council is called with Association and denominational representation to examine the candidate and make a recommendation to the local church.

5. Local church makes the final vote on the ordination of the candidate.

6. Ordination service is planned and carried out by the local church.

The Ordination Preparation Committee was established to assist in the preparation of the candidate for the Ordination Council. Here are the guidelines established by Conference for this new committee of the Association.

The Ordination Preparation Committee

In order to encourage a more uniform preparedness for ordination candidates, we urge each Association to establish an Ordination Preparation Committee.

Purpose of the Ordination Preparation Committee

The Ordination Preparation Committee shall give guidance and make recommendations to local churches within the Association and to candidates in matters of ordination and recognition of ordination.

Membership of the Ordination Preparation Committee

The Ordination Preparation Committee will be made up of nine members in session. The Association shall select the chairman and five other members not from the particular local church including three accredited pastors whenever possible. The involved local church

shall select two members. The Council on Ministry shall select one member.

The role of the Ordination Preparation Committee in ordination

The Ordination Preparation Committee is the first step in the ordination process once a church desires to seek ordination for its candidate. This committee should meet (perhaps at an annual Association meeting) to carefully review the candidate's credentials in the following areas.

1. A report from the local church presenting evidence supporting their desire to ordain the candidate. (This could be in the form of a copy of the minutes at which the church votes to call the candidate to ordination.)

2. A written statement of the candidate's Christian experience.

3. A written statement of the candidate's call to the Christian ministry. A statement of the spouse's support in this call would be desirable and encouraging.

4. A verification of the candidate's educational background.

5. A résumé of the candidate's work experience and/or previous ministry experience.

6. A written doctrinal statement on each segment of the Seventh Day Baptist Statement of Belief.

7. Three letters of reference regarding his/her moral character. One of these letters should be from a person outside of the church but from the community where the person is ministering.

The Ordination Preparation Committee will meet only after it has received these documents. The committee must maintain confidentiality. At the meeting, the committee will take the following steps.

1. Carefully review the creden-

tials of the candidate to see if they are in order for an ordination council.

2. Vote on whether to recommend that the church proceed with the examination and call to ordination. If the Ordination Preparation Committee does not find the credentials in order, the church may still choose to continue with the process.

3. Send a letter to the candidate and to the petitioning local church, concerning its recommendation. All documents shall be returned to the

petitioning local church.

4. Send a copy of the above letters and documents to the Council on Ministry.

Associations are encouraged to review these new guidelines for ordination and the new role that the Association plays in this process at their next Association meeting.

There are different ways in which Associations can establish the Ordination Preparation Committees. Perhaps the Executive

Committee of the Association could have the responsibility of selecting Ordination Preparation Committee members, as well as place and time of meeting. Action empowering the Executive Committee to do this could be taken at the next meeting of your Association.

If you haven't already, make the means of establishing the Ordination Preparation Committee a part of the agenda of the next Association meeting. Contact Rodney L. Henry, Director of Pastoral Services, for more information. *SR*

Two churches welcome new pastors

From the Columbus, Ohio, newsletter, *The Olive Branch*:

We would like to welcome our new pastor and family, Robert, Lana, Marissa, and Christopher Van Horn.

During the two years we were without a pastor, the Lord was working in our new pastor's life.

Robert and Lana and children have come to us from Princeton, West Virginia. Robert has worked the past eight years as lead teacher

We're excited about our future together...

in the 3-5-year-old room of the Princeton Hospital's Child Day Care facility. Lana has worked for the state as director of the Mercer County Child Development Program servicing parents and children of special needs families.

We are very grateful they felt led by the Holy Spirit to leave secure jobs to reenter the ministry to come and serve our church here in Columbus. We're excited about our future together, and look forward to what the Lord has for all of us.

From the Denver, Colorado, newsletter, *The Messenger*:

Six months of pastoral searching and interviewing have come to an end as Denver prepares to welcome a new pastor and his family on January 15, 1991.

Reverend Tom Warner is presently serving the Advent Christian Church in Ashland, Maine, and lives there with his wife, Shelley, and two children, Andy, age 8 and Corina, age 2.

Pastor Warner has worked in Baptist denominations as a Youth Director, Church Planting Pastor, Visitation Minister, Assistant Pastor and Pastor. Pastor Warner began to question, in his own mind, if there was some truth to a seventh day sabbath. After much study and searching, he and his wife began to keep the seventh day Sabbath approximately two years ago. Although he continued to serve his first day church, his congregation was apprised of his desire to someday serve a seventh day Sabbath keeping church. His present board of deacons have been supportive of his new conviction.

His constant exploring and studying led him to material on and the history of Seventh Day Baptists. Since that time, he has

corresponded with several SDB executives and pastors and attended the meetings of the Eastern Association. Both he and his wife feel their doctrinal convictions are completely in line with the Seventh

May our union be a blessing to all of us and pleasing to God.

Day Baptist Statement of Belief.

Pastor Warner has attended Boise State University, Boise, Idaho; Central Baptist College, Conway, Arkansas; and Multnomah School of the Bible, Portland, Oregon. Beside his theological pursuits, he plays and teaches guitar and has composed some original music. Shelley, while being a wife, mother and homemaker, has an interest in writing.

Our church is grateful that God has led us to a man that seems to have a "real concern for and love of people."

May our union be a blessing to all of us and pleasing to God. *SR*

Pastor Profile

Name: Rev. Quintin E. (Gene) Smith

Birthdate and place:

June 13, 1933, Emporium, Pennsylvania

Current pastorate:

Adams Center, New York

Family:

Wife-Marie; Sons-Gene Jr., Todd, Grant; Daughters-Mary Jo, Angela, Debbie; Stepdaughters-Cindy, Donna, Janet, Nancy; 18 Grandchildren

Education:

Emporium High School
SDB Training In Ministry and Extension (T.I.M.E.)

Former pastorates/employment:

Maintenance/Transportation Supervisor at Mental Health Clinic in Clarksburg, West Virginia
Correction Officer-Attica (New York) Correctional Facility

My first job was:

Working for the Emporium Water Co., digging ditches and good stuff like that.

Personal hero:

The Apostle Paul; Phil Simms

Favorite childhood memory:

As a farm boy in Pennsylvania, the fun of those summers of hard work and the beauty of those great mountain winters.

Favorite Bible passage:

John 3:16

Favorite author:

Robert and Elizabeth Browning

If given all all-expense paid vacation:

A trip to the Holy Land where I could retrace some of the steps that our Lord Jesus Christ has walked.



A great answer to prayer was:

My brother-in-law and friend, Jack's acceptance of Christ as his Lord and Savior before he died this year. The question is too limiting. There are many more incidents that I could mention.

A church project I'm excited about:

I am excited about everything that is taking place at Adams Center. Although we are an older congregation, I believe God is calling us to important work for His Kingdom. God sets no limits because of age or location, so I believe that it would be very wrong for us to set such limits. I'm excited about Christ's church!

My vision for SDBs:

I believe that God will have His way with us. It won't matter if we have a "50 members" mentality. I can envision Seventh Day Baptists as being one of the largest denominations in the world. I say this, not as fantasizing, but as fact. I can see no reason, scripturally, why this shouldn't be a reality. We are as much God's children as anyone and we have that extra gift that many have missed, God's Holy Sabbath.

SR Reaction

Mr. Butler:

I enjoyed your editorial in the April, 1990, *Sabbath Recorder*.

The editorial made a portion of Luke come alive. The Bible is made relevant and meaningful when we remember biblical characters had the same kinds of thoughts, feelings, hopes, dreams and sorrows we have.

Thank you for risking criticism to make the Bible more meaningful.

Gary Simpson, Alberta, Canada

Dear Editor,

The SR Reaction section remains interesting. This was true of the June issue even though I was astonished at the vehemence of the attack on Rev. Clifford Hansen and his article and on you for publishing it. It was clear that the motivation for the attack was the strong adherence to the principles of "Creation Science" and the associated preference for a literal interpretation of the Bible. An SDB Distinctive is that liberty of thought and expression is cherished so that these views, as well as those of Rev. Hansen, are welcome. My concern is that the goals and methods of Creation Science are not compatible with this particular Distinctive, and liberty of thought and expression would soon be curtailed if proponents of Creation Science ever became a majority in the SDB denomination. This type of situation has already been previewed in the Southern Baptist denomination, which has been taken over by the Fundamentalists, with the resultant firing of college professors and others in positions of influence who do not adhere to the "Party Line" of Fundamentalism. Since I strongly support the SDB Distinctive of liberty of thought, I try to miss no opportunities to point out the weaknesses of "Creation Science." I have read many of the books and articles put out by Dr.

Morris and his Institute for Creation Research. These were read with the same attention of detail that I used in reading all technical literature during my 42 years as a Control Engineer. Technical reports should not be read for the results and conclusions only, but the supporting write-up should be studied carefully.

For the most part, Creation Science Literature supplies no original data. ("The Waters Above" by Joseph Dillow is somewhat of an exception.) Creation Scientists have chosen to separate themselves from the mainstream of scientific activity and do not have access to the equipment and funding needed for making significant laboratory or field tests. Instead, the work of Creation Scientists has been largely limited to the re-examination and re-analysis of data and findings that have been published by conventional scientists. Of course, this is legitimate scientific work provided that it is done properly and accurately and that the results truly show new insights regarding Natural Laws. Unfortunately, much of the Creation Science work is done carelessly with fuzzy logic and many of the "proven" conclusions are not really proven.

I would urge all SDBs to remember the case of Galileo and read Creation Science literature very carefully.
Paul Cushman, Bradenton Beach, FL

Dear Editor,

As a devoted reader of *The Sabbath Recorder*, I, too, am appalled with Pastor Clifford W.P. Hansen's position in "An Open Door to Heaven."

Common sense tells me that all one has to do is look around and see the interdependence of all living creatures. The vegetation would never have survived without the creeping things to pollinate them, and what would happen to all life if nights were even 500 years long (as some say each day was 1000 years), to say nothing of billions of years! How long would it be before the earth

would have been overrun with vegetation without animals and people to eat them.

Even more importantly the Bible says there was no death before Adam sinned. The whole plan of Salvation was covenanted by our Heavenly Father and our Savior, Jesus, because Adam's disobedience brought death into the world.

Even a study of the complexity of the human body shows the Hand of the infinite Creator, Jesus.

If anyone needs other proof, I invite you to write to The Institute For Creation Research, 2100 Greenfield St., El Cajon, CA 92021. Ask for their radio log, too, for their program "Science, Scripture & Salvation."

Irving Saunders, Roseburg, OR

Dear Editor,

Last fall (1989) I had a vision of Jesus. In the vision He related to me that He wanted the Seventh Day Baptist church to be the most beautiful of all churches. The major change in the church He indicated was that our women would be silent. The change was to come about willfully by each woman as an act of love and submission to Jesus.

After talking to a few people in church I realized that the reason people weren't that way to begin with was because people didn't believe that Jesus wanted things that way. At that point I began to think my situation hopeless and began to feel my efforts were futile.

About five weeks after the first vision, I was in church and Jesus spoke to me again and indicated how little I was willing to suffer for His sake. I was ashamed and then renewed.

This spring I submitted a paper to the SR Editor Kevin Butler, and he suggested I submit something shorter that people could comment on.

At this point I feel like I am supposed to explain God in 15 words or less, but I am thankful for the opportunity to share what I have been given (1 Cor. 14:34; 1 Timothy 2:11-12).

Mike Bernitt, Delavan, WI

December	\$754,485
November	\$691,611
October	\$628,738
September	\$565,864
August	\$502,990
July	\$440,116
June	\$377,243
May	\$314,364
April	\$251,495
March	\$188,621
February	\$125,748
January	\$62,873

1990 income needed—\$754,485.
Per month gift income needed—\$33,351.
Total needed each month—\$62,873.

SR Reaction, cont. (Letters may be edited for length and clarity)

Dear Editor,

My late husband, Wayne Crandall, and I were missionary teachers at Crandall High School in Kingston, Jamaica, from 1970-1974. Rev. Joseph A. Samuels was then the minister of the Kingston SDB Church located next door on Charles Street. The late Pastor Charles Lyons was minister at Blue Mountain.

On May 4-6 the Allegheny Association met in Alfred Station, New York. Two bus loads from Toronto attended the meetings to show support to Conference President Joe Samuels, who was preaching Sabbath morning. I believe that these Canadians, many of them former Jamaicans, will play an important role in the development of our denomination.

An important feature Sabbath afternoon was a resounding spiritual "sing-along" led by Christine Lindo. This was accompanied by young men from Toronto on drums, keyboard, and piano. The church walls vibrated with this lively music.

Katherine Crandall, Alfred, NY

Editor, *Sabbath Recorder*,

I'm pleased readers can sound-off in the *Recorder*. We, as Baptists, have a natural right (and need) to communicate on a grass-roots level. Thank you.

Regarding the creation-story hysteria: Moses was highly educated and likely knew more scientific detail than elaborated in the Genesis account. What he told was fact, though not literal in detail.

Whatever was done, was work of Almighty God, the conscious, eternal, loving motivator.

Through centuries of head-scratching, stumbling, and eagerness for knowledge, we have, with a fair degree of confidence, decided that the "flat" earth is a ball travelling round the sun. "Screwball" authors of these claims, were officially condemned to hell-fire.

Religious men have made huge embarrassing mistakes before. Are

we afraid to change our views?

I don't, for example, believe that God created smooth, round pebbles in an instant. He caused them to become that way through a process of attrition.

God's present world speaks the truth as to its physical history. Let's continue to read tangible evidences honestly.

Ira Bond, Nortonville, KS

Dear Brother Butler,

I am an ignorant man! When it comes to religion, I am like a first grader in a room full of Greek scholars and theology professors. Fortunately, God's plan of salvation is so simple that even an ignorant man can easily grasp it. Yet many "scholars" have perverted God's simple message.

I may not be able to speak Greek or understand Hebrew, but I can count to 10... And anyone who can count to 10 is able to recognize false teachers. Ten is the number of commandments carved in stone by the "finger of God."

According to the Bible, the Creator of the universe has never changed them. Not one "jot or tittle" has ever been added or removed.

Therefore, any Greek scholar, theology professor, or so-called prophet (ess) that adds to or takes away from God's Ten is not speaking for the God of the Bible. For example, anyone who says that God has abolished one of His commandments (the Sabbath...) is not from God. Or, anyone who says that God has added to His commandments (vegetarian health reform...) is not from God.

God's plan of salvation is this: "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments for this is the whole duty of man" (Ecclesiastes 12:13).

Anyone who calls upon Jesus Christ for help will be able to keep God's commandments. Simple, isn't it!

Harold and Donna Kupp,
Mill City, OR

Accessions

Centertown, MO

Jon Warren, pastor
Joined after baptism
Alan Kiral
Melodie Kiral

Memphis, TN

David Pearson, pastor
Joined after baptism
Rhoda Yoder

New York City, NY

Richard Evans, pastor
Joined after testimony
Delroy Grant

Westerly, RI

David Taylor, pastor
Joined by letter
David L. Taylor
Margaret P. Taylor

Marriages

Stephan-Richardson.—Karl Joseph Stephan and Vickie Lynn Richardson were united in marriage on July 12, 1990, at the home of the groom's grandparents, Mel and Frances Stephan, in Lafayette, CO. Pastors Gordon Lawton and Victor Skaggs officiated.

Bejjani-Snider.—Renod Bejjani and Barbara Snider were united in marriage on July 15, 1990, at

the Riverside, CA, Seventh Day Baptist Church. The Rev. Gabriel E. Bejjani officiated.

Gregg-Bass.—Daniel Gregg and Valerie Bass were joined in marriage on August 25-26, 1990, at the First Baptist Church and Gates of Heaven Synagogue in Madison, WI. The Rev. Leroy Bass, father of the bride, and Paul Manuel officiated.

Obituaries

Ogden.—Rev. Seymour Duane Ogden, 88, died in Denver, Colorado, on June 24, 1990.

He was born in Salem, West Virginia, on July 10, 1901, the son of Charles Gordon and Cora (Randolph) Ogden. He received his secondary education at Salem Academy and was a magna cum laude graduate of Salem College, where he received his liberal arts degree in 1923. After graduate study at Alfred (New York) University, he received a B.D. degree from Yale University Divinity School, New Haven, Connecticut, in 1927.

Rev. Ogden was ordained to the Christian ministry at Waterford,

Connecticut, in 1927. He served as pastor of the Waterford Seventh Day Baptist Church for three years and also served the Old Lyme Baptist Church near New London, Connecticut. His successive pastorates were Nortonville, Kansas, SDB Church; Olathe, Kansas, Community Church; and a long line of Congregational churches. He retired in 1971.

Survivors include his wife, Margaret; two daughters, Judith Ann Randall and Jane Elizabeth Mangone; two sons, Duane Jr. and Charles; one sister, Charline Haude; 11 grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

Births

Brannon.—A daughter, Lisa Marie Brannon, was born to Dennis and Patricia (Sharp) Brannon of Fayetteville, GA, on March 23, 1990.

Shafer.—A son, Shane Dale Shafer, was born to Keith and Daliene Shafer of Riverside, CA, on July 4, 1990.

Nikodem.—A son, Daniel Patrick Nikodem, was born to Michael and Joanne Nikodem of Ledyard, CT, on July 12, 1990.

Lawton.—A daughter, Sarah Michelle Lawton, was born to Jeffrey and Nadine Lawton of Bradford, RI, on July 28, 1990.

Rudert.—A son, Alexander Edward Rudert, was born to Eric and Debra Rudert of White Cloud, MI, on August 10, 1990.

Memorial services were held on June 30, 1990, at the First German Congregational Church in Arvada, Colorado.

Arnold.—Alice Arnold, 89, of Bradford, Rhode Island, died on July 18, 1990, at her home. She was the widow of Eldred Arnold.

Alice was the daughter of the late Dwight and Hannah (Eccleston) Main and was a lifelong resident of Hopkinton, Rhode Island. She was a member of the First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Hopkinton and the Ashaway (Rhode Island) Grange.

cont. on next page

Obituaries, cont.

She is survived by two daughters, Janet Morgan of Bradford and Linda McDonough of Stonington, Connecticut; two sons, Robert of Santee, South Carolina, and Peter of Ledyard, Connecticut; two foster sons, David Ponder of Ashaway and Daniel Ponder of Coventry, Rhode Island; 14 grandchildren, and 16 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband and one son, Richard.

Funeral services were conducted by her pastor at Avery Funeral Home, Hope Valley, Rhode Island. Interment was in Oak Grove Cemetery, Ashaway.

Payne.—Deacon Donald J. Payne, 70, of rural Claremont, Minnesota, died on July 31, 1990, of heart failure at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, Minnesota.

Don was born on October 25, 1919, in Beadle County near Hitchcock, South Dakota, to Arthur and Eva (Churchward) Payne. He moved with his family to Dodge Center, Minnesota, at the age of 6. He graduated from Dodge Center High School in 1937 and attended the University of Minnesota, St. Paul campus for a time. He moved to Claremont in 1940.

On June 14, 1942, he married Cecile Deane Rood in Boulder, Colorado, and then farmed north of Claremont with his father until 1948. They moved to Kiowa, Colorado, for one year before returning to Minnesota and purchasing a farm northwest of Dodge Center. In 1965, they moved back to the family farm north of Claremont, living there until 1978. Then they lived in the Albert Lea, Minnesota, area until returning to rural Claremont in 1983. His wife died on January 24, 1986.

On January 17, 1988, he married Jacqueline Wells in Riverside, California. They made their home in rural Claremont.

Don was a longtime member of

the Dodge Center Seventh Day Baptist Church and was ordained a deacon in 1947. Other church responsibilities he fulfilled include moderator, trustee, and Sabbath School teacher.

Survivors include his wife, Jacqueline; four daughters, Miriam Randall of Richfield, Minnesota, Elise Walker of Janesville, Wisconsin, Madelyn Neher of Dodge Center, and Janelle Payne of Owatonna, Minnesota; three sons, David of Valley City, North Dakota, Douglas of Claremont, and Robert of Nerstrand, Minnesota; the family of Conrad Larson of Alexandria, Minnesota; three sisters, Lorna Austin and Millicent Greene, both of Dodge Center, and Dorothea Shettel of Riverside, California; and 23 grandchildren. He was preceded in death by one daughter, Phyllis Larson, and two grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on August 25, 1990, at the meeting house of the Dodge Center Seventh Day Baptist Church, with Pastors Wayne Babcock and Dale Rood officiating.

Maxson.—George Laroy Maxson, 81, died on August 4, 1990, of a heart ailment while in the Intensive Care Department of the Riverside (California) Community Hospital.

Laroy was born in Gentry, Arkansas, on March 21, 1909. His family later moved to Battle Creek, Michigan, where they became members of the Seventh Day Baptist church. He was united in marriage to Beulah Miller on February 26, 1927.

He served as an aid to Dr. John Harvey Kellogg for several years and spent considerable time traveling and assisting him in other capacities. Laroy and Beulah later purchased his parents' neighborhood grocery and had it remodeled into a supermarket.

Ordained as a deacon by the

Battle Creek church, Laroy continued to serve in that capacity after moving to California in 1949 and requesting that his membership be transferred to the Riverside Seventh Day Baptist Church. As a deacon, he was actively involved in the Lord's work. He was known by many for his empathetic ministering to others' spiritual needs, for his soft-spoken composure, and for noting positive qualities in others, rather than criticizing them for any discerned weaknesses. Prior to his death, ill health prevented him from actively serving the Lord for many years.

He is survived by one daughter, Jean Patton; one sister, Geraldine Nelson; three grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

A graveside service was conducted on August 4, 1990, by Rev. Alton L. Wheeler, pastor emeritus. ALW

Adams.—Ruth Tinker (Lee) Adams, 96, formerly of North Kingstown, Rhode Island, died on August 26, 1990, at the Parkview Nursing Home in Providence, Rhode Island. Ruth was born on August 20, 1894, in Stonington, Connecticut, daughter of the late Harry P. and Alice D. (Chesebro) Lee. Widow of Henry E. Adams, she was a member of the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church, Westerly, Rhode Island.

Survivors include two daughters, Alice Lee Rathbun of Pawcatuck, Connecticut, and Ruth Elizabeth Julian of Fernwood, Idaho; two sons, Henry T. Adams of Fernwood and Carl J. Adams of Pawcatuck; one sister, Mary J. Bradley of Providence; 13 grandchildren; and 30 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on August 28, 1990, at the Buckler-Johnston Funeral Home in Westerly. Burial was in Swan Point Cemetery, Providence.

KEVIN'S

ORNER

While at Conference this year I began to realize that not everyone knows what goes on behind the scenes here at the *SR* and with the Communication Council. There are days when I do not realize what's going on...

I was a Council member for a few years before I started to understand the many pieces of this ministry puzzle. Perhaps I could use this space and your time "periodically" to fill you in on what goes on. I want to keep you up-to-date on our ministry, and ask for your suggestions.

You may have noticed that the *Recorder* has become quicker to read. I'd like to claim concise and excellent editing, but we've

actually cut out eight pages. The harsh realities of budget shortfalls came calling. The Council also proposed that no outreach issues be printed (too costly). Was this in opposition to Conference's wishes? Sort of. But not out of line with proper stewardship.

Hopeful signs have appeared.

I know that you folks are interested and very supportive of the *Recorder*. Our mailing response was again very generous. What about tracts?

During my pre-director days on the Council, I would wonder why more tracts weren't being printed. Now I know: money and time! With the few tracts we have reprinted, our tongue-in-cheek slogan has become, "Well, it's only a reprint!" as we re-edit the editing and redo the last change of the last switch from the initial readjustment after we altered the first restyling of that slight modification. We're picky! We care! And that takes time and money.

I want to be proud (not prideful) and confident when I hand someone a tract or a *SR*. And we are not alone in this pursuit of excellence.

In the next *SR*:

A call to pray—

- How should SDBs pray?
- Emerging trends of global prayer
- Getting intimate with God

I approached the Memorial Board with a grant request (what I thought was a large amount) to replenish our tract inventory. In their concern for quality and image, they exceeded the amount by another third. I reluctantly (ha!) accepted their generosity.

We are right now considering what should be reprinted; what should be continued, what to drop? I don't really want to reprint something for the 18th time just to have it on the shelf. I want the piece to be read, to be readable, used to bolster the ministry of the local church, and primarily to bring glory to God!

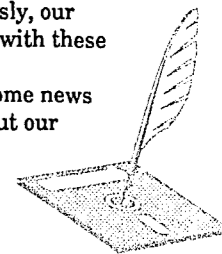
Some good ideas came from this year's Conference. An individual has agreed to support the printing of a new brochure which will outline the various ministries of our agencies.

And instead of a separate outreach issue of the *SR*, a new all-purpose tract (Salvation, Sabbath, SDBs, our resources) with a response card is in the works.

I am happy to announce our latest reprint, "What the Bible teaches about the Sabbath." It is colorful (two shades of blue, black, and bright yellow "arrows"); updated in its language; and adds a blurb about Seventh Day Baptists and our relation to the Sabbath. Printed on glossy stock, this four-fold (legal size paper folded twice) cost us almost 17 cents apiece to produce. The Council has set the new price at 10 cents each.

Are you in the market for a new watch? Many people were at Conference—these new full-color logo watches have sold well. Half our inventory is gone (so you can buy the other one today!) Seriously, our folks are starting conversations with these quality watches.

Thanks for letting me share some news with you. We're still excited about our work and thankful to be serving the Lord and His people.



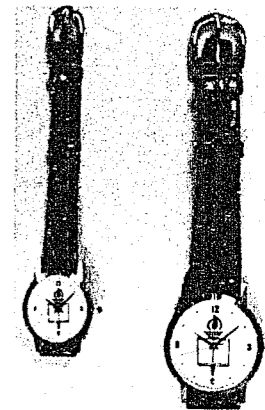
New Logo Watches

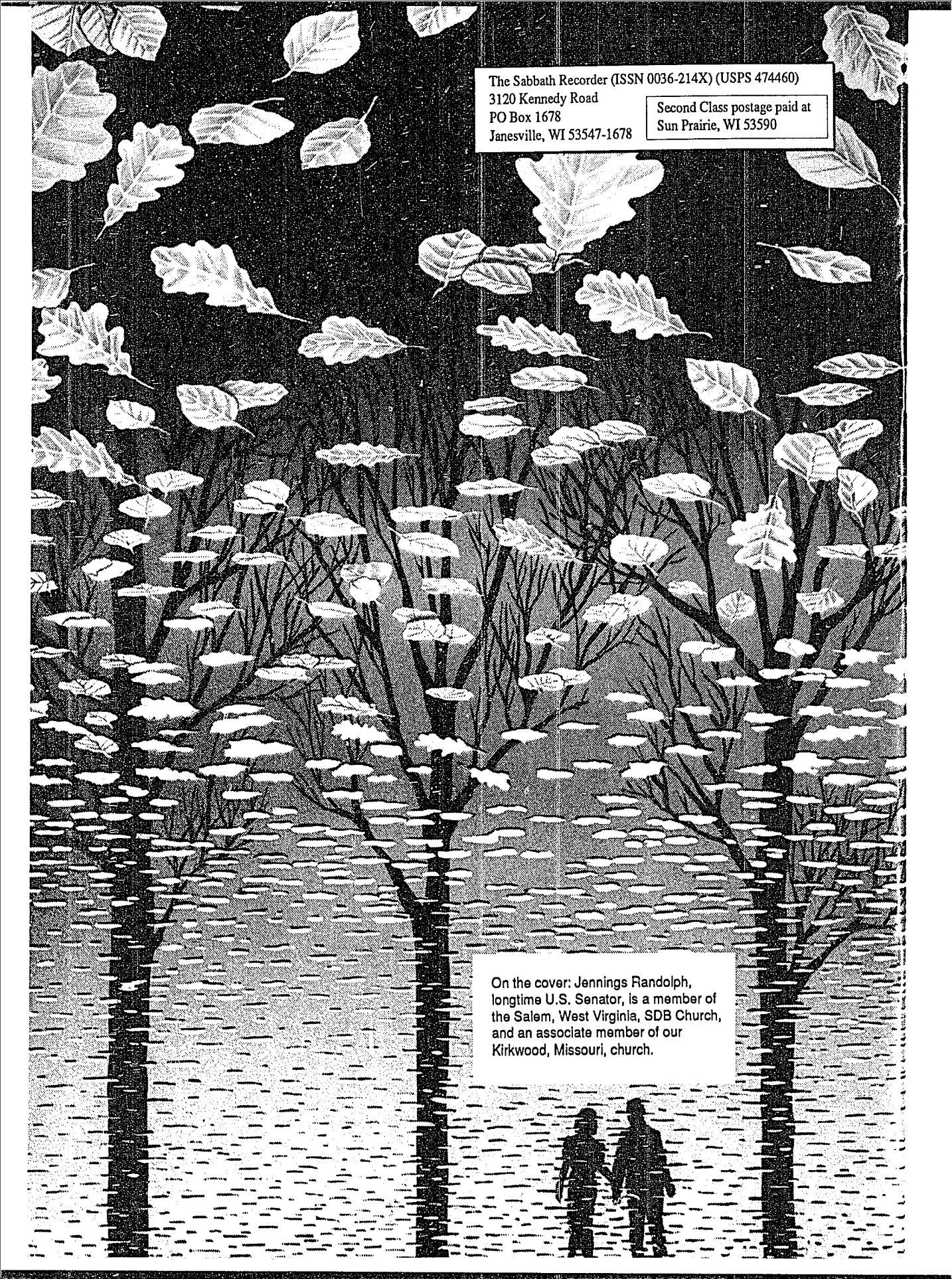
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On the cover: Jennings Randolph,
longtime U.S. Senator, is a member of
the Salem, West Virginia, SDB Church,
and an associate member of our
Kirkwood, Missouri, church.