In the October 16 issue of the Sabbath Recorder appeared the Conference message prepared by Professor Leland W. Hulett of Milton concerning the "Need of a Reserve Fund." This "rough" graph was prepared by him at the request of the Committee to Advance the Financial Program; it shows the trend in budget receipts since 1939 as compared with the budget quota. The series of question marks is inserted simply for emphasis. Budget receipts have never equalled the quota during the period illustrated; it took the specials to bring the line above the quota.

The graph for 1944 suggests that this year we should try to get budget receipts above the quota and let the specials be "extras."

"Why don't you get some new toys?" said the modern mother to the toy dealer. "You are selling the very same kind that I had when I was a girl."

"Ah, madam," replied the wise old toy dealer, "what need of new toys when we have new children all the time?"—Texas Outlook.

**CHINA LETTERS**

Written by

Dr. Rose W. Palmhorg
Seventh Day Baptist Medical Missionary to China, 1894 - 1940

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**THE SABBATH RECORDER**

Plainfield, N. J.
Laymen's Responsibility

We believe in and depend much upon the laymen of the church. By their money is raised for missions, schools, evangelism—in fact, for all types of Christian work done in the church and denomination. Were it not for the financial help given by the Babcocks, Potters, Cottrells, and many others of more modest means, what could have been done? But we believe that is only one avenue through which laymen should operate. The common man, workman, artisan, clerk, teacher—the man and woman in all common walks of life—owe more to the cause of Christ than can be paid in contributions and gifts, large or small.

The laymen of the early church offer us an example that more should follow: "And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad... except the Apostles... Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word." Acts 8: 1-4. That, we believe, was not official "preaching," but personal testimony and telling the good news about Jesus and salvation—the workman telling his fellow laborer.

Isn't that what we increasingly need today? The president of Conference, himself a layman, believes it is. Valuable and needed as the Word is, preached from the pulpit and in personal testimony and telling the good news about Jesus and salvation—the workman telling his fellow laborer.

The importance of the layman's work. Here are the verses credited to him by "The Church Officers' Gazette."

Leave it to the ministers, and soon the church will die; let it to the womenfolk; the young will pass it by; for the church is all that life us from the coarse and selfish mob, and the man that is to prosper needs the layman on the job.

Now a layman has his business, and a layman has his joys; but he also has the training of his little girls and boys; and, I wonder how he'd like it if there were no churches here, and he had to raise his children in a godless atmosphere.

It's the church's special function to uphold the finer things. To teach that way of living from which all that's noble springs; but the minister can't do it singlehanded and alone. For the laymen of the country are the church's cornerstone.

When you see a church that's empty, though its doors are open wide; it is not the church that's dying, it's the laymen who have died to it; for it's not by song or sermon that the church's work is done; it's the laymen of the country who for God must carry on.

It is true—the great work of the church, the witnessing work—must be done by the laymen. In the usual church among us there is one minister; the rest are laymen.
The situation must challenge every one of us to the reality of Christ's life and spirit whose body the Church is.

LUCCOCK SCORES AGAIN

For years ministers have been benefiting by the writing of Dr. Halford E. Luccock, professor of homiletics at Yale University. His "Preaching in Modern Translations" and "Preaching Values in the New Translations of the New Testament," to mention but two among many of his books, have been illuminating and inspiring. Now he comes out with "In the Minister's Workshop," a book which gives to many churches the promise of better preaching.

Not that the book offers a storehouse of outlines or ideas or sermons as such, but the delivery of the workshop. The book is concerned chiefly with problems of the preacher's workshop.

In Dr. Luccock's mind, sermons are tools, "words the soul's ambassadors," people one of the great sources of sermons, and the true preacher "the channel of a communication and not the source of it." The true preacher should, he strikes fire in his very first sentence. On hearing a great preacher another of his, Dr. Luccock quotes, "He seemed to be the voice of a communication, not the source of it." This describes all true preaching. It is exemplified in the prophecies of St. John's "chariot"—"The Word of the Lord came."

So the Bible also is presented, as well as the preacher's storehouse and lab, and must be used if the preacher is to speak with the "reality of a God who speaks."

Suggestive treatment of a great variety of subjects and situations—such as literary forms, reading, writing, alertness of eye and ear, delivery, preaching as a two-way traffic, habits of study, the use of the Bible, how to use contemporary themes—will help the ministers "to stimulate their homiletical inventiveness and enrich the content of their preaching."

This is a good book for our younger men to study and will be a joy, stimulus, and inspiration to us who are older. "Channels" are we? Maybe channels become clogged. Here is a book that will clear the mind and challenge the soul. It is published by Abingdon-Cokesbury Press, Nashville, Tenn., and can be purchased for $2.00.

CONFERENCE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

First Things First

When I went into business I gathered a few tools in a chosen place and needed a large sign in front so my name could be seen and read easily from both ways. What does my business or another business have to do with the Seventh Day Baptist denomination or Seventh Day Baptist churches? It appeals to me every Seventh Day Baptist church should be a place of business, business for the King. Each place of business should be boldly marked so everybody, local or just passing, may know that Seventh Day Baptists exist and where they are.

A trip around some of the churches in North Carolina and by the summer reading of them had only small boards which were difficult to read from the road even though you stopped your auto. New York is only typical of what exists over the country. A year ago I went into one of our towns unannounced. After getting a hotel room I went out of the street to find the church so I would know where to go next morning. I asked many people with no satisfaction. Finally a boy was sent by a woman in the hotel who went down that way and found three churches. One had a small identification high in the street, the other three had nothing. So the Seventh Day Baptist. The pastor told me next day "everybody knows where the Seventh Day Baptist church is." It was marked, but I had to see it in the street in one of the risers of the cement steps—S. D. B. Church.

In Alfred last summer on Sunday p.m. of Conference week a stranger asked me, "What Theological Seminary is that?" "Everybody does not know." Will you not step out in front of your church and observe how inadequately it is marked. Will you not then take steps at once to place large eye level signs, not just hand written signs of 25 ft. (Highland Church. "Everybody does not know.") When the church is off the main highway or street, will you not obtain consent and place a large sign on the corner nearest the church with an arrow directing to it.

At Medford, Ore., I saw a sign which pleased me. I believe it to be one of the best I had ever seen. It was a sign by eight feet set out in the lawn near the walk so it could be read from both ways. It was lighted at night. It had only the name of Luccock's "Preaching Values," and large plain readable letters.

Will you join in letting more people in more states, in Seventh Day Baptist churches, to where they may be found.

P. B. Hurley

ORDINATION SERVICE

(Information for this article was obtained from a report sent by Carroll W. Hoxie, clerk of the Pawtucket Seventh Day Baptist Church, and of the ordination council and from a write up appearing in "The Western Sun."

A very impressive and largely attended ordination service was held Sabbath afternoon, November 18, 1944, in the Pawtucket Seventh Day Baptist Church. Rev. R. H. Lockwood was the pastor and Brother Wardner T. Fitz Randolph of the Ark., Seventh Day Baptist Church was ordained to the gospel ministry.

The council was held at the Pawtucket church at the request of the Poulch Church; this church being represented on the council by Rev. Clifford A. Beebe, Miss Anne Beebe, and Mrs. Wardner, T. Fitz Randolph. Others on the council were pastors, laymen, ordained ministers, Second Hopkinson, First Hopkinson, Waterford, and Pawtucket Seventh Day Baptist Churches.

Mr. Fitz Randolph is being sent out by the Missionary Board to Jamaica, B. W. L., as a missionary, and is leaving for his new field in the morning of the Sabbath.

The meeting was called to order by the president, Mr. George B. Utter, and after the reading of the call and call of churches, Rev. Harold R. Cramond and Carroll W. Hoxie were elected moderator and clerk, respectively. Prayer was offered by Deacon Leavitt, Randolph of the Second Church.

Mr. Fitz Randolph then gave his statement of Christian experience, call to the ministry, and explained the content of his call. (The statement of beliefs appears in the Missionary Department of this issue.)

Mr. Fitz Randolph told how he had been connected with the Seventh Day Baptist Church, since childhood. He was born in Shanghai, China, where his father, Rev. Gideon H. Fitz Randolph, was a missionary. They came to live in Foulke, Ark., and at the age of twenty-three he was licensed to preach. He graduated from Union and Alfred Seminary, but did not follow his calling at that time. He went as an employee of the railroad postal service. He became a member of the Foulke Seventh Day Baptist Church, and he said that the opportunity had come to go to Jamaica, and he and his wife answered the call.

After the questions, deliberation of the council, organ voluntary, and coronation, the invocation was offered by Mr. Randall. There were musical selections by the choir.

Rev. Ralph H. Coon of the Ashaway Church, read the scripture and offered prayer. The congregations then singing "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty."

The ordination service was delivered by Rev. E. Luccock, president of the Ark. Church, and the charge to the candidate was made by Mr. Randall.

Rev. Trevor R. Sutton of the Rockville Church delivered the obligation to the Christian ministry. The consecrating prayer, with the laying on of hands, was delivered by Rev. William J. Burdick, corresponding secretary of the Missionary Society.

He was welcomed to the ministry by his own pastor, Rev. Clifford A. Beebe, and Mrs. Wardner. T. Fitz Randolph how they had started out together as students at Alfred, fought in the first war together and now he was listing away after all these years he was able to follow his original intention of entering the ministry.

Following the singing of the hymn, "Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak," by the congregation, the Benediction was pronounced by Rev. Wardner Fitz Randolph.
A STANDPOINT OF BELIEF

By Rev. Warder F. Randolph, A Missionary to Jamaica

(Conceived at the time of his ordination by the Pwecawena Seventh Day Baptist Church, November 18, 1944.)

The Bible

I believe that the Bible is the inspired word of God, and that by the teachings of Jesus Christ, is a safe and adequate guide to faith and practice: “For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing, as it were, to the division of soul and spirit, of joint and marrow, and so keen that it is able to discern the thoughts and the secrets of the heart.” Hebrews 4:12.

And he said, “Teaching them diligently unto thy children, and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy sons, and shalt speak of them when thou sittest in thy house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.” Deuteronomy 6:7.

“O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and the knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed to him again? For of him, and through him, and to him are all things. To whom be glory for ever. Amen.” Romans 11:33-36.

Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ is the Son of God: “And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” Matthew 3:17.

He was with God in the beginning: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was nothing made that was made.” John 1:1-3.

Jesus Christ was not only the Son of God, but he was human, even as you and I. “Give to the Word and sin brought death: Wherefore, as by one man sin entered the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.” Romans 5:12.

Man

Man was created by God in his own image: “And God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.” Genesis 1:27.

And he said, “Teaching them diligently unto thy children, and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy sons, and shalt speak of them when thou sittest in thy house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.” Deuteronomy 6:7.

The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God within us: “Know ye not that ye are a temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? Any one that defileth the temple of God, that God him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, and such are ye.” 1 Corinthians 3:16. 17.

The Church

The Christian Church is composed of all the redeemed of God joined together in a common hope and a common purpose, with a common Leader: “Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God, and are built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; in whom all the building fitly framed together groweth into an holy temple in the Lord.” Ephesians 2:19-21.

Baptism

Baptism by immersion was practiced by John the Baptist. Jesus was baptized and that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.” Hebrews 11:6. “If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.” Romans 10:9.

This new relationship with God, is variously spoken of in the holy Word. It has as many names as there are different aspects of this relationship:

Adoption—“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God.” Romans 8:14.

Atonement—“The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.” 1 John 1:9.

Conversion—“Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, ye shall in no wise enter into the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 18:3.

Justification—“By his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.” Isaiah 53:11. “Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” Romans 5:1.

Reconciliation—“We pray you in Christ’s stead, be ye reconciled to God.” 2 Corinthians 5:20.

Regeneration—“Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except one be born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” John 3:5.

This statement is a faithful attempt to present some of the teachings of the Bible, which are the foundation of our faith. It is not intended to be exhaustive, but to provide a starting point for further study.
comissioned his Church to go, to teach, and to baptize. 

Baptism is not only a public acknowledgment of your new relationship with God, but has deep spiritual significance: "Know ye not, that many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?" (Romans 6:3-4). 

"The Lord's Supper" 

The Lord's Supper was instituted by Jesus Christ to bring to our remembrance his suffering, his death, and his resurrection. He commanded his disciples to "do this in remembrance of me." (1 Corinthians 11:24). 

"Worship Program" 

By Mrs. Eldred Batson 

Stewardship 

Hymn: "Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak." 

Scripture reading: Psalm 34: 11-19. 

A Meditation for Women 

(Selections from "Pattern For Stewardship," by Gladys S. Romney) 

I heard the voice of my conscience asking: How shall I render a good account of my stewardship in the season that lies just ahead? I must be prayerful. At the very beginning of each new hour of endeavor, I must remember to pray; for, if I am overwrought, I shall need Christ's quieting presence. If I am weary with weariness, I shall need the lift of his limitless power. If I am enmeshed in the monotony of endless tasks, I shall need the thrill of his voice speaking my name and telling me his kingdom will come sooner if I do my share—yes, my stewardship must begin with prayer. I must be prayerful. 

How else can I pass on the knowledge that my society must have? I must study until the beginning, not only at prayer meetings, not only when the Ladies Aid Society meets—but when I miss a bus, or pass by with eyes averted, or rationalize in the quiet of an impromptu daydream, or use the truth lightly. Someone may think: "That is the way these Seventh Day Baptists manage their Christianity." And, alas, it would be only myself yielding to the temptation of a whim. Yes, I must be a steadfast example. The eyes of little children, of eager youth, of critical adults, are watching and judging Seventh Day Baptist womanhood. I must live radiantly in God's sight, moment by moment, and all will be well with my stewardship. 

Christian Education 

At the October 8 meeting the following officers were elected: President, Rev. Alfred B. Batson; Vice-Presidents, N. Rogers of Alfred Station; Secretary, Dean A. E. Whitford of Alfred; treasurer, Dr. Ben R. Crandall of Alfred;secretary, Professor John Reed Spier of Alfred; Executive secretary, Harley Sutton of Alfred Station; Corresponding secretary, Harley Sutton. 

A special feature was the Longfellow Baptist, a faithful and efficient service of Dr. E. D. Van Horin as president of the Education Society and the new board was unanimously passed by the directors. 

It was voted to express to Mrs. Dora K. Degen the board's sincere appreciation of her long and effective services as corresponding secretary of the board. It was also voted to send to L. Ray Polan an appropriate expression of appreciation of the board for his years of faithful service as treasurer of the board. 

A hearty welcome was extended to the following new members of the board of directors: E. F. Hildebrand; Rex Zwiebel; Miss Wilma White and her alternate, Miss Emma Burdick. 

Due to illness of her mother, Miss Wilma White was unable to attend college the first semester. Miss Emma Burdick was appointed editor of the Beacon for the first semester. 

for Christ that they whose lives we contact by day may see in us his true followers, Amen. 

"Russian War Relief" 

A letter from Mrs. Beatulush Burhoe, secretary of the Inter-Faith Committee of the Russian War Relief, requests that the Women's Auxiliary's groups know about the special campaign to send a shipload of Christmas gifts to the children of the Soviet Union. For further information read "Merry Christmas, Tanya," on page 383 of the last issue of the Sabbath Recorder, see your local Russian War Relief Committee, or write to Russian War Relief, Inc., 5 Cedar Street, New York 3, N. Y.


card reports were sent to the Sabbath school departments. All reports were received. This co-operation is deeply appreciated. 

Twenty-four churches alone or in cooperation with others, sent reports. The general work of the board, Sabbath school work, visual education, cooperation of home and church, and plans for lay leadership development were some of the points emphasized in these reports. 

Your secretary attended the Annual Convention of the New York State Council of Churches held in Cortland Y. P. B. This year the information was received in leadership training, and workshops were held in Harding Park, Glendale, and with William L. Stidder and Chaplin Witherspoon. 

A directory of lay help and other literature was arranged for the General Coals and many more of the material. 

A Seminar on Christian Education was conducted on Sunday afternoon of Conference. Short talks were given by Miss Lena Drake of Singel's house and Rev. Alon Wheeler of N. Y., Miss Madeleine Button conducted the worship service. Slides on "Improving Your Teachers" were shown. About forty-two persons attended. 

Our thanks to the following: New York Summer School of Christian Education at Silver Lake August 6-12. He took a course in Youth.
SCHOOL AT JACKSON CENTER

Pastor David Clarke worked long and faithfully in planning a community school of Christian Education which was held from November 1-7. The Methodist and Lutheran churches of the village co-operated in the program.

The schedule of each day was as follows: first class, "Personal Religious Living," and the text used was "Finding A Religion to Live By." The program was conducted by the pastors. Second class, "Planning a Young People's Society Program."

Both classes were taught by the secretary of evangelism of the Federal Council, and Dr. Munro, who is director of the United Christian Education Advance of the International Council, announce the following follow-up programs: "Schools of Missionary Training," "Trained for Overseas Missions," and "Leadership in Christian Education." In addition to inspiring and educating the young people, the pastor and assistants for "winning boys and girls to Christ" and for "reaching the unchurched with Christian teaching," the National Mission meetings held so far were significant for the place developed for taking the program into every community of the state.

For instance, Dr. Jesse M. Bader, secretary of evangelism of the Federal Council, and Dr. Munro, who is director of the United Christian Education Advance of the International Council, announce the following follow-up programs: "Indiana's Leaders are Planning a Series of One-Day 'Missions to Christian Teachers' in Every County of the State." In Vermont, twelve area mission meetings were held by the New Hampshire Conference of Christian Education was presented by the secretary.

Calls were made with Pastor Clarke in many homes. Where there were children, the importance of Bible training in Christian Education was stressed.

Jackson Center people have great admiration for David and Frances. Young folks are very hard and results are very evident. As is true of all our churches, there are loyal laymen in Jackson Center who have the foundation of our denomination, as well as the local church. People at Jackson Center want all of you to keep praying for them and us. We were first visit there, and it is now much easier for me to visualize these good people as I hold them up before God in prayer.

Harley Sutton.

Lay Workers

By Philip C. Landers

Chicago - "Enthusiastic" support for the beginning of a long term program "to inspire and vitalize the lay teacher-evangelist in every local congregation" has come from the hundreds of Protestants leaders in Christian education who have attended the first six weeks meetings of the National Mission to Christian Teachers, according to Dr. Harry C. Munro of the International Council of Religious Education, joint sponsor with the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America.

In addition to inspiring and educating the lay school teachers and pastors for "winning boys and girls to Christ" and for "reaching the unchurched with Christian teaching," the National Mission meetings held so far were significant for the place developed for taking the program into every community of the country.

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Harley Sutton.

Children's Page

OUR LETTER EXCHANGE

Dear Mrs. Greene:

We are up in Gypsum, Colo., now. It is beautiful country. It is near where Doctor Greene was; I would say about fifty miles from St. Louis. We have been in Cleveland November 17th as always and it was a few weeks ago. We are right in the mountains.

My uncle and I one time hiked up a mountain and saw four deer.

My mother is the Public Health Nurse up here. We gave my dog, Tootsie, a bath this morning. Tootsie is a local dog and she is just as fat as a porcupine!

We have a large brown dog who came walking into our church yard just as we were beginning Sabbath School. He was not sure of his footing, and he was afraid of the children, and he was afraid of us, but he was not afraid of his master who was right beside him. He took a walk around the church and then he turned and walked back to the dog house.

My brother went to Boulder this weekend. Sincerely, Alice Hemminger.

Gypsum, Colo.

Dear Alice:

I'm sorry I could not find room for your letter last week, but you see I came to the very bottom of my last page and had to stop.

Of course when I think of Colorado nowadays I always think of Camp Hale since our son spent quite a bit of time there. We have several snapshots of him, his wife, and little Karen taken near there. He must be quite skillful in skiing now since his battalion spent months of their time learning how, and he had to go wherever his battalion did. Is skiing done around Gypsum, and have you learned how?

We have deer in this part of the country, too, and every hunter is disappointed if he doesn't get one during the hunting season. One of the county leaders was several weeks ago when we saw sage deer cross the road and up the side of the hill. They were all does.

A large brown dog came walking into our church yard just as we were beginning Sabbath school. He strongly objected to being put out but finally trotted off towards his home, which was back for there wasn't much he could learn in Sabbath school, and my class might have paid more attention to him than they did to me, since he is a very active dog. Andover is a great place for dogs. One can hardly go down town without our meeting several dogs, little dogs, big dogs, dogs of many kinds.

Your sincere friend,

Mizpah S. Greene.

THE LITTLE HOME MISSIONARY

(Concluded)

Betty ran to her mother and said, "Oh, Mama, you know how fond Frankie is of flowers, and I know you will let me have the pink roses in the garden. Please may I have them?"

So Betty gathered the prettiest blossoms she could find in her garden and took them over to Frankie. At the little house, she held them up to his lips with a cry of joy. "Don't take them away," he cried. "They are the sweetest flowers I ever had!"

With his face buried in the flowers he closed his eyes and was so quiet that his mother thought he was asleep, but he was just thinking: "Oh, Mama, I wish I thinking of Tommy Smith across the street. He has to sit all day in the kitchen while his mother washes; for you know he can't walk a step. I want to be a little missionary like Betty and share my flowers with him. May I?"

"Yes dear, if you wish," said his mother softly.

Tommy Smith sat at the kitchen window watching some boys who were playing noisily across the street. His mother had been washing all day, and the window was so steamed up that he could hardly see through it. He tried to wipe off a part of the window pain with a cloth. The first thing he saw was a man with a great bunch of flowers in his hand. "Oh, how pretty," cried the little boy. "I am so glad I saw them."
ORDINATION SERVICE

At the regular quarterly business meeting of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Piscataway, N. J., on August 6, 1944, it was voted that Pastor Victor W. Skaggs be called to ordination to the gospel ministry.

Accordingly an ordination council consisting of representatives of the Seventh Day Baptist churches of New Jersey, New York City, and Berlin, N. Y., was convened for his examination at the morning service October 21, 1944.

Following the worship service Dr. L. C. Bassett, chairman of the committee on special arrangements, was in charge and called the council to order. He requested the church clerk to read the action of the church in calling the pastor to ordination, also to call the roll of invited churches and to obtain the list of appointed delegates.

Aside from a group previously appointed from the Piscataway Church, the council was composed of the following persons from other churches: Rev. and Mrs. Paul L. Maxson of Berlin, N. Y.; Elder John G. Schmid from the German Seventh Day Baptist Church of Irvington, N. J.; Pastor and Mrs. Francis Saunders of Marlboro, N. J.; Dr. Corlis E. Randolph of the New York City Church; Rev. A. C. Van Horn and Deacon A. F. Randolph of Plainfield, N. J.; Rev. Lester G. Osborn and Deacon Charles F. Harris of Shiloh, N. J. Dean A. J. C. Bond and President J. Nelson Norwood of Alfred, N. Y., were present and upon invitation also joined the council.

Dr. Corlis E. Randolph was elected moderator, and Miss Ethel C. Rogers of the local church was elected clerk of the council.

Prayers were offered by Deacon Charles Harris and Dr. J. Nelson Norwood.

Pastor Victor W. Skaggs then presented a statement of his Christian experiences and beliefs.

It was so clear and satisfying that no questions were asked of the candidate when the opportunity was given.

The council voted to order the council to recommend Victor W. Skaggs for ordination.

The congregation united in singing "O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee."


"A call to prayer," Victor W. Skaggs, N. J. Ms., was sung by Mrs. Mary Bond Lewis, followed by the consecrating prayer by Dean A. J. C. Bond during which all ordained Seventh Day Baptist ministers present participated in a formal laying on of hands.

The candidate was given his robes by Rev. Paul L. Maxson of Berlin, N. Y. Church to examine the church, Rev. Lester G. Osborn of Shiloh, N. J. Welcome to the ministry was given by Rev. Herbert C. Van Horn of Plainfield, N. J.

The closing hymn, "Breathe on Me, Breath of God," was followed by the benediction by Rev. Victor W. Skaggs.

A luncheon was served by the Ladies' Aid Society of the church.

Ethel C. Rogers, clerk, Council of Ordination.

STATEMENT OF BELIEF

By Victor W. Skaggs

God

I believe in God. There is no other god than the loving Father of men who is the Sustainer of law and order among men and nations and the universe, and the strength and guide of men's spirits. God is a spirit. We do not see God, nor know the time and place and purpose, we feel his presence and we see his power and goodness displayed.

Men have worshiped other beings whom they called gods. Men have even worshiped inanimate wood and stone shaped and cared for by their own hands. Men have worshiped power and beauty and men have offered to God what is no other. He alone of all the gods of men has power to answer the cries of his worshipers. He alone is love.

"I am he that hath made us, and not we ourselves" (Psalm 100:3). "God is the Creator. "His hands formed the dry land" (Psalm 92:6). He is the whole universe for his made it. Today God's creative power is at work. It works directly with things. It works in men's minds, creating things. It works in men's spirits, creating new and clean hearts within men. "All things were made by him; and without him was not anything that was made" (John 1:3). God is Spirit. "No man hath seen God at any time" (John 1:18). "God is a spirit; and they that worship him must worship in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24). This profound statement of Jesus opens our eyes to the magnitude of God. It tells us that neither time nor distance nor secrecy has any effect upon the power of his power. It tells us that God is around us and within us and over us, for a spirit's presence is not limited to one place.

The God is good. "There is none good but one, that is, God" (Matthew 19:17). His goodness is so complete that we know it as holiness and perfect righteousness. From our righteousness emanate God's laws for nature and for men. The administration of these laws is tempered with mercy engendered by God's love.

I believe in God—the one personal, self-existent perfect spirit who loves men whom he created and cares for; and sustains and redeems. To him belong glory and majesty, dominion, and power now and forever. Amen.

Jesus Christ

I believe that Jesus of Nazareth was the Christ, the Son of the Living God (Matthew 16:16), and that he lives today with the Father. Jesus was a man. He participated in all the essential conditions of human life. Hope Lectures, p. 15. He grew through a physically normal boyhood; he was subject unto his parents; he was recognized as a carpenter. He was tempted as we are. But Jesus was more than a man. Even as he lived as a man, he was God manifest in the flesh. The presentation of Christ in the New Testament brings to us a revelation of how Jesus was 'willing to be found himself to me' (Hope Lectures, p. 15). We cannot escape the fact that the evidence of his mind, the evidence of his teachings, the evidence of his life and death and resurrection, the evidence of nineteen centuries of men's experience of him, the evidence of our own personal experience allows no alternative but that he and God are one. If I accept Christ as the supreme authority over my life (which I do)—he must be one with God or above God. I believe that God and Christ are one.

The theme for ordination was "Becoming like the Son of Man." Jesus Christ was the teacher of men by both word and deed. He left to us a legacy of guiding principles for thought and action that reveals the will of God to us for all the phases of life. Again he is more than that, for he is our Saviour. I believe that Jesus Christ is the one personal, self-existent perfect spirit who loves men. I believe in the resurrection again that men might be redeemed. I believe that this redemption is composed of three parts:

1. The removal of sin's guilt.
2. Deliverance from the oppression and tragedy and frequent pain of sin.
3. Jesus Christ has accomplished this for those who trust in him.

As Saviour, Christ is the object of our faith. He draws the trust and faith of men unto himself that he may fix that trust on the Father who is God and to be in and to the Father he worshiped.

The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is God within men. Since the beginning of human life, the Holy Spirit
I believe that the Bible is the written Word of God. I believe that the indwelling spirit of God so influenced men of old that they wrote down in the Scriptures all the experiences they had in seeking for and serving God and the story of God's searching for and saving them from physical, moral, and spiritual disaster and death. That is what we now know as the Bible. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works." (2 Timothy 3: 16, 17).

Jesus is the supreme interpreter of the Scriptures. All things are to be understood as they relate to his teachings or to the spirit of holy love which he manifested throughout his life.

In the Bible resides the authority for my beliefs and my conduct. I know no higher authority. I sincerely believe that in matters of faith and conduct a man will receive guidance from on high if he studies the related Scriptures, praying for understanding and wisdom.

Man
I believe that man is the creation of God. I believe that man was created in the image of God; that is, having a spirit and endowed with choice and moral judgment.

"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them" (Genesis 1: 27).

I believe that the man of God is the individual who has been born again; who has come to the saved or is saved; who believes in the gospel of Jesus Christ; who is a member of his church; and who is daily seeking his salvation and the salvation of others. That is the man who submits to the will of God, has faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, seeks to walk in all his ways and to please him by his words and works. A person who is saved has salvation "when Christ is within us; for we cannot by any possibility be saved outside ourselves" (Hope Lectures, p. 30).

Sin and Salvation
Sin is always true, but we see it in ourselves and in others. Sin is not confined to actions that are not in accord with God's will and purpose for man. Rather, sin is the adoption of any course of thought or feeling or action that is in opposition to God or his just and holy will. It is because sin is found in the heart and life of each man upon the earth that all mankind needs a Saviour.

Salvation from sin is accomplished in and through Jesus Christ. Salvation is a large and inclusive term. It involves, first, a deep sorrow for sin on the part of the sinner—repentance. Second, it involves a change of heart and mind from dependence upon self or some other thing to a dependence on God in Jesus Christ—conversion. Third, it includes a transformation of the heart and spirit of the sinner to that of the Christ—regeneration. None of these is accomplished outside of Christ. It is only by the guidance of his spirit that we can know to come and to know and to be saved; that we can come to change our hearts' allegiance; and it is through the power of God alone that we can be given new hearts and new lives.

I believe that "Those who by faith unite themselves to Christ upon the cross and identify themselves with him in his death and burial, and submit to him to die with him, and at bottom become right with God" (Hope Lectures, pp. 22, 23); or "by pouring out his life, Christ offered that complete self-consecration in which he kept the faith and the spirit of his words. That sacrifice becomes ours when in faith we unite ourselves to him. So to unite ourselves is to be right with God." Thus we have salvation "when Christ is within us; for we cannot by any possibility be saved outside ourselves" (Hope Lectures, p. 30).

Eternal Life
I believe that those who love the Lord Jesus Christ enjoy eternal life with him. That is the man of God's eternal life which is then the richness of the gospel of Jesus Christ—his life. He believes that he lives now forever with the Father. He acknowledges the power of the Father's love for him and accepts the sacrifice that was made for him. The Father loves us and accepts us as joint heirs with Christ of his kingdom, we too, shall live forever with him. I do not know what that existence is like. "It doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that when he shall appear, we shall be like him" (1 John 3: 2).

This I believe about eternal life. It is with the Father. It begins now—in part—for those who know and love the Father here are already entering that blessed life with him that will be completed in the hereafter.

The Church
The Church of God is made up of all who personally know the salvation of Jesus Christ. Christ is its only authority and overlord. It is one body in Christ and its various branches are called on by Christ to cooperate in all ways compatible with free exercise of individual conscience.

The local church is made up of men and women of a given community who believe on Jesus Christ who have banded themselves together in fellowship for mutual strength and encouragement, and for telling the good news of salvation. Each local church should govern itself in the spirit of brotherhood and love, and in accordance with the understanding held by all other Christians. The local church is the channel of grace to countless individuals. It is the school of the church. The church is the body of Christ and is to be served by the members. The church is to be a sign of the kingdom, but that God can and does and will work through it to save men's souls and build his kingdom.

The Sacraments
I believe that there are two sacraments instituted by Christ—baptism and the Lord's Supper. These rites contain within them the assurance of salvation and lead to spiritual community and salvation. They are "a visible sign of the invisible grace of God.

Evangelism
I believe that the Church of God has two chief tasks: first is the strengthening and molding and upholding of the faith of-
I believe that evangelism is one of the two chief tasks of the church. I believe that evangelism is the persuading of others to accept the Christian faith. Evangelism is accomplished in Sabbath schools, in Daily Vacation Bible Schools, in preaching, in personal work, in missions, etc. Evangelism uses any method that brings the truth in a persuasive way to those who do not know it. Evangelistic effort is the privilege of every Christian man or woman. Jesus said to his disciples, and he says to us today: "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world" (Matthew 28: 19, 20).

Evangelism by Christians is Christ's chosen way of gaining new citizens for his kingdom.

Personal Experience

These beliefs are not the result of a few hours thought. They are not the result of three, or four years of study. They are the result of all the experiences of my life.

My life began in the Plainfield parsonage. My life as a child was spent in the home of devout servants of God. My recollections of my early days have no place in them in which the church and regular church attendance does not play a part. I well remember Sabbath afternoons spent near Mother's old rocker, where I heard the stories of the Bible. I spent many hours sitting or standing at the piano in the home, where I have been thoroughly ingrained in me. Each passing week I realize more and more deeply, the impact of the things that have shaped and molded the lives of my parents, both within the home and outside it, have made upon my life. It was shaped and then directed toward God. I thank God that I have had my parents and pray that my children and others' children may have parents more like mine in their devotion to their children and toward their God.

I finished elementary and high schools and went to Salem College for four years. While there I found vital and thrilling Christian experiences that were not separated, for one is impossible without the other. Evangelism deals with the second—leading men through Christ to God.

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Evangelism as a Way of Life

Evangelism is a way of life. It is a way of life that is thoroughly ingrained in me, a way of life that I learned as a child, a way of life that I have never stopped living, a way of life that I have never stopped growing in. It is a way of life that I have never stopped trying to live, a way of life that I have never stopped trying to improve, a way of life that I have never stopped trying to perfect. It is a way of life that I have never stopped trying to share with others.
many are forgiven; for she loved much” (Luke 7: 47).

I feel quite sure it was not what the woman did that Jesus was so impressed by, but what she revealed concerning herself. Her heart was full, and she did what she could to express that fullness of devotion.

Jesus told them that all had the right to keep feeling. It may be interest in something we would like to do. It may be sympathy for someone in distress. It may be some good work we would like to continue. It may be some erring girl or boy whom we would like to bring to Jesus, that the feet may be set in the way of life. What can we do may seem very small and unimportant. True, we can speak our words of love and sympathy. We can give some money to relieve a need. We can bestow a blessing of our love.

It may be in a time of some great treat that a handclasp or silent understanding is all that we can give to a friend. But the heart is often so full that there can be no adequate expression of its love and interest. I think that was true of the woman, and a sinful woman at that, who anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped them with her hair.

The heart of Jesus was always overflowing with that love and interest in people. Its expression was simple, commonplace, real.

How precious is the experience of a disciple who has learned to live on that level! We occasionally find such people: people who conscientiously do the work of Jesus. They go about doing good. They are alert for those who need the encouragement and help which they can give. Such individuals sustain our hope for the whole human race. If some people can be born of such a spirit, why not all people—sometimes? Jesus in the heart makes the difference.

We know Jesus had a very high value upon kind deeds and loving service. When John the Baptist was in prison and prospects for him seemed dark, he sent some of his followers to Jesus to ask him if he were the one that should come or if they must look for another. Jesus did not give a direct answer, but said, “Go and show John again those things which ye hear and see: the blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and those that have the evil spirit are cast out.” (Matthew 11: 4, 5).

No one else had ever done these things. The lepers were outcasts; the blind were hopeless; the poor were neglected. In ministering to these Jesus signed the name of one who was sent from God.

Again when Jesus was teaching (Matthew 25: 31-46), he made entrance into his kingdom by saying, “I was an stranger, and ye took me in.” “I was sick, and ye visited me.” “I was in prison, and ye came to me.” “Then shall ye say unto them that he casts: ‘I was hungry, and ye gave me meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink; I was a stranger, and ye took me in; I was naked, and ye clothed me; I was sick, and ye visited me; I was in prison, and ye came to me.” (Matthew 25: 35-46).

In the parable it was not a person who was a stranger that was helped, but the stranger, and the stranger was Jesus. “I was hungry and ye gave me meat; I was thirsty and ye gave me drink.” (Matthew 25: 42-45).

Jesus in the parable speaks of himself. “I was a stranger and ye took me in.” (Matthew 25: 35).

Bible reading is not an empty thing. Some people have given it as worthless. One of them is John. He says, “If I had not been sent to speak unto you, I would have of thee no record.” (John 19: 37).

We may be in a position to give some of the good things we have that were given to us. We may be able to help a person who is in need. We may be able to give some of the things that God has given us. We may be able to give some of the things that Jesus has given us.

Jesus says, “I was hungry and ye gave me meat; I was thirsty and ye gave me drink.” (Matthew 25: 42-45).

Jesus says, “I was a stranger and ye took me in.” (Matthew 25: 35).

Jesus says, “I was sick and ye visited me.” (Matthew 25: 42-45).

It is not a question of giving of ourselves. It is a question of giving of the things that we have. It is not a question of giving of ourselves. It is a question of giving of the things that we have. It is not a question of giving of ourselves. It is a question of giving of the things that we have. It is not a question of giving of ourselves. It is a question of giving of the things that we have.

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Members from the church will attend the ordination service for Wardner Fitz Randolph to be conducted at the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church at Westerly.

A special Thanksgiving service will be held on Thanksgiving morning with members from Jordan Baptist Church as guests.

Correspondent.

Wilton, Iowa

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Burns arrived here from Schenectady, N. Y., on November 14 to help re-establish and revive our dear old church. The first service was held November 18 with twenty-four persons present. Mr. Burns spoke on "Time for Action," and he used as a text, "Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord."

Sunday evening services are being planned, hoping all happy when Pastor and Mrs. Wing arrive from Jordan, N. Y. We know our loss is due to the fact that some of the people we have lost had been members of the church for many years.

Other churches in the community to conduct another school, we had forty...five enrolled. We hope much good may be done and that the seeds sown may bear fruit.

Our Ladies' Aid is again meeting every two weeks, after the communion. We do Red Cross sewing and any other work that may be brought to us. We have made eight wool lap robes for Percy Jones' Hospital at Battle Creek, Mich. It is our plan to have an all-church night with supper once in two months.

The Young People's Auxiliary seems to have revived and is very active this fall. At present they are making plans for a church Thanksgiving dinner. Guests outside the church will be foregotten lonely, sick, or needy persons in the community. They are also making plans for Christmas gifts to those less fortunate than we. We all believe we will be happier in doing for others.

The weekend of October 14 we entertained the Semi-annual Meeting of the Michigan and Ohio churches. A very worthwhile and enjoyable time was had by all. In spite of the gas and tire situation there were about thirty guests from other churches. The only unpleasant fact was the thought that perhaps this would be the last chance most of us will have of hearing Rev. and Mrs. Hargis. Our prayers and good wishes will follow them to California.

Rev. L. O. Greene and wife were with us the weekend of October 28 promoting evangelistic work here. He held four meetings while here. On October 26 we met in the church parlors for a potluck supper and social evening. At this time Rev. Greene told us of his work on the mission field. A special offering of over $400 was taken on Sabbath day for the Women's Board and since then the Ladies' Aid has sent $25 more.

After having been postponed one month our annual business meeting and dinner was held November 5. We all enjoy these times together. At this meeting it was voted to send enough money to the Memorial Hospital at Battle Creek, Mich., to make a down payment of $500 paid during the year.

In July a new heating system was installed in the parsonage; who are either returning or are connected with the church; who are in service. We are all praying for their safe return.

Our church sponsored the gathering and packing of clothing for European relief. We packed almost one thousand garments.

"I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."