November 12, "World Community Day" was observed in Alfred under the auspices of the Women's Evangelical Society. The program was planned jointly with the Union Church Guild and the Christ Chapel Auxiliary. Several boxes for overseas relief were dedicated at this service. They included nine school kits and eight clothing bundles.

Friday evening, November 14, the young people presented a program in the Church which consisted of a worship service and the presentation of the drama, "Give Us This Day," which was written by Donald Gray of Milton and presented first at Conference. Leading parts were taken by Ronald Hargis, Mrs. Gerald Bond, Carl Maxson, Willard Sutton, and Mary Jane Ormsby. Voice parts were taken by Judith Burdick, Benjamin Berry, Allen Bond, and Stanley Harris.

Recently the Ladies' Aid held a rummage sale at which time an amount of over $300 was received. Clothing and shoes that day were given to the needy at home and abroad. There was a community Thanksgiving service held in the Church on Monday evening, November 24. The high school choir sang two selections and Dr. Rowland Warren gave the address. Alfred people expressed the spirit of the season by giving generously of clothing and money.

Mrs. Lynn Langworthy, Correspondent.

GIVE THE SABBATH RECORDER FOR CHRISTMAS

Some relative or friend will thank you for your thoughtfulness. The subscription price is yet $2.50 a year, which includes the twelve special issues with their covers in color. If you wish a note sent to the person informing him of your gift, please indicate below.

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THE SABBATH RECORDER, 510 WATCHUNG AVE., PLAINFIELD, N. J.
EDITORIALS

Christmas tide Brings Hope

Who knows not hope knows not Christmas. God's love gift brought hope to a hopeless world. Up through the centuries since Christ came, Kingdom progress can be measured by the hope experience of men. When men have had a Christlike "desire accompanied with expectation of obtaining what is desired, or belief that it is obtainable," they have moved Godward. One of the tragedies of our day is that we are cherishing a desire without expectation. We are wishing for a better world order, but do we expect it? Are we doing our best to bring in a better order?

Increasingly we become impressed with the vision and spirit of men and women who have caught the hope of true Christmaste. They cherish a desire with expectation. They have hope in whom is our only hope and that of the world.

Christmas tide Brings Faith

Where loyal faith is found, there is glad Christmas tide. For Christmastide bereal of faith sinks to the slough of selfish commerce. We cannot separate sacrificial giving and the spirit of the Christ child. To do so violates the purpose of our Saviour's coming. To do so denies the great Giver's love gift.

God's plan for man unfolds as folks everywhere grasp anew the realities of His grace and compassion. Man's faith in God is vindicated as folks everywhere seek His forgiveness and accept His power. When men live as though grace and compassion, forgiveness and power are real, knowing them personally, Christmaste comes with joy and gladness.

If the love and hope and faith of Christmas were channeled through the conduits of our highly-developed systems of communication,
AN ANGEL SPEAKS
By Marie Hunter Dawson
Tarentum, Pa.
Long ago when the infant Jesus came
Lies there with the angels through
While shepherds watched their resting flocks
They sang the glorious song.
The Wise Men came with their offering
To lay at the Child's side;
While Mary and Joseph watched gratefully
As their baby slept or cried.
I see across this war-scarred world
With homes demolished today
New parents, countless, lay their babies
On little pallets of hay.

Through went and sorrow an angel song
Resounds in divine caress
As the stars shine down and the white-thread and a few words
will present a message. A diagram and a brief story present facts. Quickly and concisely, the broad picture takes form and the lesson and worth is presented.

Dr. Ralph Sockman wrote of it: "The Churches will find this little book to be a great help in teaching the lessons of world peace to the younger generation and adults as well." This statement is important because it indicates the truth that the book is prepared for those ten years of age and older.

The theme of the book, if one may be selected, seems best expressed in its closing words: "You, as an individual, have duty and worth. You also have responsibility. The peace and security of the world depend on how you think, what you say, and how you act."

If you are interested in knowing how the United Nations works, and how you do assist in its success or contribute to its failure, this book will present you with information and message in such a way that you cannot fail to understand. It is sold at sixty cents a copy, illustrated by Lois Fisher; Children's Press, Inc., Throop and Monroe Streets, Chicago 7, Ill.

V. W. Skaggs.

A liberal education is intended to beget and to bring forth in a person power—all kinds of power—power of thought, of affection, of will, of action; power to observe, to reason, to judge, to contrive, to adapt; power to govern one's self and to influence others; power to gain and to spread happiness.


THE SABBATH RECORDER
One hesitates to undertake to describe the importance of our missionary program, because no words of pen or tongue are adequate for this purpose. Only eternity can reveal its importance. The following facts, if kept in mind will help: 

1. God, the Father, considered the missionary program of so great importance that He sent His Son to earth for the express purpose of saving the world. 

2. The world is hanging on the edge of a great crisis. The Church holds the key to the situation, and the measure of responsibility of the Church is hanging on the measure of responsibility of the Church leaders. 

3. The perpetuity of the Church depends upon the support of missions. 

4. The Church needs help in the field of education. 

5. It is important now that we support missions. 

China

China's physical need cannot be overestimated. In 1946 one region was said to have had “the worst famine in forty-nine years.” Most of the world never heard of this other famine. Happily, the agencies of relief, both secular and under Church auspices, are busy in China. 

China needs help in the field of education as well as in the area of physical relief. Students are flocking to the schools and colleges. 

Some elements in the Church picture are encouraging. There are congregations which have crowded their services all through the decades. 

It is encouraging to note that Chinese Christians are already planning a nation for the second century. 

Church News

North Loup, Neb., Gloria Babcock played the voluntary and offertory at the service Sabbath morning. 

A piano duet was played by Gary Cox and Theron Barber. 

The Missionary Circle met Wednesday afternoon in the basement of the church. The lesson on the Recorder was planned by Mrs. Myra T. Barber. It consisted of talks by Mrs. Jessie Babcock, Mrs. Myra Hutchins, Mrs. Cora Hemshill, and devotional work led by Mrs. Roy Cox. Roll call responses were given on “What I like about the Recorder.” 

The Dr. Grace Missionary Society met Tuesday to get ready for the Christmas bazaar which was held Wednesday afternoon. 

A trifle over $130 was taken in at the special collection for the Second Century Fund Sabbath morning. — Myra T. Barber, Correspondent.

And thou, child shall be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways; 

To give knowledge of salvation unto his people, for the remission of their sins, 

Through the tender mercy of our God, whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us, 

To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.” — Luke 1: 76-79.

It is encouraging to note that Chinese Christians are already planning a nation for the second century. 

Better Sabbath Schools

What kind of Sabbath schools are we preparing for the 10 per cent increase in enrollment? 

Are you satisfied with the picture that new people see when they look into classrooms for the first time? Will they see hymn books piled up to the corners full of old quarterlies? 

Perhaps the thought of new people coming in will stimulate us to make classrooms more attractive.

Will new people find that our Sabbath school has a plan that looks forward to bigger and better things?

In a letter from Mr. P. B. Hurley of Riverside, he said that he would want new people to find our Sabbath schools studying the Bible and really learning about it, and living its teachings.

He thinks, too, that systematic calls from teacher, superintendent, and pastor will be most likely to win the delinquent or new person. 

He told of a family near his home where there were several children who were not going to Sabbath school. He thought that later he would see if he could get them to go to Sabbath school. Before he had done anything about it someone else had taken them to another Church on Sunday. 

His confession is one that most of us need to make. We all have the unreached persons around us and we are putting it off until later, which becomes too late!

Don Richards, President Riverside County, Calif.

It was good news to hear that Don Richards, a member of the Riverside Church, has been elected president of the County Christian Endeavor Union. He will do a fine job.

Don is one of the many veterans who are taking hold of Church work where they left off to enter into the armed service. He is also teaching the intermediate class in Sabbath school.

Not all of our young people can fill offices like these, but there is an important work that all can do, and that is to bring at least one new member to our Sabbath school class and help with the campaign to increase enrollment 10 per cent before October 1, 1948.

Harley Sutton.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

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The Christmas Story

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.


A Christmas Prayer

O Christ, grant us thankful hearts today for Thee, our choicest gift, our dearest guest. Let not our souls be busy inns that have no room for Thee and Thine, but quiet homes of prayer and praise where Thou mayest find fit company, where the needful cares of life are wisely ordered and put away, and wide sweet spaces kept for Thee, where holy thoughts pass up and down, and fervent longings watch and wait Thy coming. So when Thou comest again, O Holy One, mayest Thou find all things ready, and Thy family waiting for no new master, but for one long loved and known. Even so come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Ralph M. Harper,
from Church Management, December, 1947.
A Christmas Sermon — THE VOICE OF A PROPHET

By E. Wendell Stephan
Pastor, Seventh-Day Adventist Church of Christ,
Plainfield, N. J.

Text: "And this man shall be our peace."
—Micah 5: 5 (A.S.V.)

Some say, that ever "gainst that season comes
Whereto our souls desired to be;
The bird of dawning singeth all night long:
Then, say, they, no sport can walk abroad;
The nights are wholesome; then no planets strike,
His first coming forth, His coming into the
Advents concerning which our Bible speaks:
So that it is a time of Advent, the first of three
advents: the advent of beauty, the advent
of hope, and the advent of astern task for
which our Bible speaks. It is a time of beauty for the spirit of
Christ, and that season comes when we find the mother of the
babe in the manger, but also as "the way, the truth, and the life," as the Saviour who lives with us and within us.

Today, we enter the celebration of the
time of Advent, when He came forth as a little child. In the
hearts of men, and His final appearing when ever and however that may be—when He
will come again, and gloriously happy.

A Christmas Sermon — THE VOICE OF A PROPHET

Now Micah speaks again. This king "shall
stand and feed in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his
God." Small wonder that the people of Israel had not known faith in God made him great? And now
the promised ruler was to stand in that faith as the one who was the strength and shield!
But wait, that is not all. "Such an one shall be our peace!" Here Micah pointed to the "Great Peace" of the Hebrews. They were weary of war, they hungered for a
leader who would again drive the
Assyrian from the gates, the Assyrian who laid waste the land, and defiled their palaces.

And so the prophet calls them to their
tern task. He denounces them for their idolatry, for their exploitation of the poor
among their own people; he condemns them for their brute, savage victories and deceitful
weights. He denounces the Church of his
time for feeling weak and helpless in the face of the sin and corruption that was so
great. And he thunders his answer, "There
fore I will look unto the Lord; I will wait
faith it must also be the advent of a stern
on with the full knowledge that if this is
to happen, so they look to the govern
ment, has only been able to lead
some kindly to cope with the sinfulness of the world.

Our world must be changed from within!
"Not by might, nor by power, but by
the power of wealth,
and by the government."

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Our world must be changed from within!
"Not by might, nor by power, but by
the power of wealth,
and by the government."

"All those who call upon the Lord shall be our message to the world. May Christ indeed be born in every heart!
"And his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting
RECREATION HELPS FOR YOUTH

Recreation is important in Church work. So many times youth groups run out of ideas for parties. In order to help each other find new ideas the suggestions in the following article may be helpful. If Ruth Collings of the Ashaway, R. I., Church, is the author of the article and she has done a good job. — H. S.

Dear Recreation Director:

At the Eastern Association I was appointed director of recreation. I try to plan in planning worthwhile socials for your young people's society. If you have held a social recently which you think was very successful I would like to hear about it so you would write to me, giving details of your plans, so that I may include it in one of my future letters, that others may try it.

First, what is recreation? Recreation means a different thing to nearly everybody. One definition is Webster's, "refreshment after toil; amusement; the act of creating anew."

Second, the recreation committee. Your job is to provide a period of recreation at each social, but no one person, however well qualified, should be solely responsible for a society's recreation work (Suppose one of you should break a leg.) The whole committee may help plan the program, but other helpers should be used to put the soul behind the idea. The committee may start by meeting the social to plan and rehearse it in order to make it a success.

Third, just prepared. By rehearsing the program in your mind, imagining the room where the local social is to be held, then the people that will be there, and where you will take much of the stiffness out of your manner. Prepare more material than you will need. If you are asked for a game, go ready to play three. Better to have too much than not enough.

Fourth, emergencies. If you are to direct a musical game, say to yourself, "If the plan at does not turn up, what then? Could we sing or clap the time and rhythm? If not, what game shall I switch to?" It is that feeling of being equal to your job, of having a worry free, fool-proof,izzle-proof plan that, gives you what it takes to do a good job.

Fifth, stand up, speak up, speed up, and stop. Stand where all can see you, even if you have to climb a chair. Speak slowly and distinctly and never shout. If chatterers will not subside, your co-leaders can silence them with joint hushing, "shh." Speed up preparations necessary to get the game or whatever started. As you gain experience you will save time by choosing for your second game one that has the same formation.

Material for this letter was adapted from "Country Gentleman League Bulletins.

I hope these suggestions may help you to understand your job better and help to put it in action. In my next letter I will send plans for a complete social, with games and refreshments for you to try.

Ruth Collings.

THE OWNER

(David L. Beebe, age 16, of the Gentry, Ark., Church)

O God, I stand in the house of man,
And mountains held me by their power,
Thy streams entranced me hour by hour—
And the sky would not set me free,
When all the earth was dark,
And the mountains held me by their power;
And the sky and the billows of the sea
Were Thine indeed, but I raised my cry,
"O Lord, have mercy on me, to Thine.
O God, I stood on the highest hill
And saw that all obeyed Thy will.
Thy streams entranced me hour by hour—
O Lord, my soul belongs to Thee.

There is no commandment better calculated to bind the soul to God in intimate faith, than the one that calls upon men to reserve and use for spiritual ends His holy Sabbath day. — Alva J. C. Bond.

If it costs much to keep the Sabbath, then it becomes a sure test of our love. If the sacrifice that we make seems great, then to make it gladly measures a greater love. — Alva J. C. Bond.

Protestant Leaders Interview President Truman

On November 14, 1947, a delegation of Protestant leaders had an interview with President Truman at the White House, follow-

The delegation consisted of Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, executive secretary of the Methodist Council of Bishops; Dr. Louie D. Newton, president of the Southern Baptist Convention; Dr. Wmkeflood Garrison, associate editor of the "Christian Century"; Dr. Edwin T. Dabney, presi-

Dent of the Northern Baptist Convention; and Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert, General Secretary of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America.

The delegation gave the following brief summary of the conference:

"The delegation understands that the President strongly feels a need for the united support of all the moral and religious forces of the nation and of the world in his efforts to secure a just and durable peace. With this position the delegation expressed its complete accord.

"The delegation pointed out that the equal treatment of all religious groups by the govern-

ment in its policy of religious freedom is essential, if there is to be such an equal support by them, is essential to such united support by them. With this conviction the President expressed the hope that this message would be given much public consideration.

"The delegation left with the President certain suggestions which he believed would insure the attainment of this end. The President stated that he would take these suggestions under careful consideration.

"Meanwhile, the President reaffirmed his statement, made to the delegation on June 6, 1946, that the appointment of Mr. Taylor as his personal representative to the Vatican was a temporary measure.

"When asked by representatives of the press about the "certain suggestions" made to the President, the delegation asked to be excused from making any further comments at this time. The delegation thought it preferable to give the President opportunity to consider the matter before making any public statement. — Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America.
Dear Mrs. Greene:

How are you? We are just fine down here in Edinburg. I like the letters and stories on the Children's Page. I have a little buddy from California, Rev. Mr. Ray, preached to us. We are expecting a new pastor soon.

Jimmy Fisher, one of the boys in my Sabbath school class, is coming to spend the day with me tomorrow.

Last summer I went on the bus to Ft. Sumner, N. Mex., to see my aunt and cousins, Jim and Edna May Huey. I earned $2 one day picking apples and peaches.

I am in the third grade at school. I study reading, writing, arithmetic, spelling, English, American reader, art, and music. Every day we have a play period. Friday afternoon we have a newspaper report.

Your friend,

Robert Marvin Boehler.

Edinburg, Tex.

Dear Robert:

I was very happy to receive your letter. Do you suppose you are a mind reader? I wrote last week begging for letters, and that unusual request will not appear in the Sabbath Recorder until next week. I do hope you will write often.

The fact is, I believe he was in good health and he answered, "Sure I am, from the top hair on my head to the skin on the bottom of my feet!"

And what is it by your nose? was the next question. And promptly came the answer, "I don't know, but I feel as if there isn't any running!" That's how I feel. I'm not sure what most of my neighbors have colds, I haven't a sign of one. We are having cold, real snow here, but it is snowing, not drizzling snow which looks just right for coating, and to judge by the number of times I just missed falling down on the icy pavement on my way down town I wouldn't be surprised if there were good skating. Do you ever have snow and ice in Texas? A little niece of ours from Panama, who spent a year with us, had never seen snow. When the first light snow came, she went out in the middle of the street and patted the snow against her face. At last she came in and with a very sober face, said, "Will the snow always wash off like that?"

When the winter was over she found the answer to her question, for it proved to be a very snowy season, with snowdrifts higher than her head. She loved it, and to her surprise really enjoyed it. When summer came and we complained of the heat, she said, "Do you call this hot? Over here we have blood heat!"

Your schoolwork must keep you very busy, and I judge by the money you earned picking fruit that you are not idle during vacations. Do you know, I'm wondering how you spent that well earned $2.

Your true friend,

Mizpah S. Greene.

The Blessing of the Leaves

Not many weeks ago I looked out of my window toward the woods upon the hill and felt sure Jack Frost had been there, for the leaves had put on their autumn dresses and the trees were dressed in red and gold and brown. But in a few days, North Wind came rushing along the rough, cold way and tender little plants seemed to bow their heads and say, What shall we do? We are sure to freeze."

The air little leaves high in the trees seemed to hear them and to say, "Dear Mother Tree, we love you and hate to leave you, but we must go."

And that, though weak and tender those plants may be, we may not go down and make a warm cover for them."

And the North Wind came again, by his way of doing things, and that tender little plants too small to know pretty leaves, you have helped us all summer, but we are strong and do not need the tender plants.

So down went the little leaves and made a warm cover for them, and some of those trees were quite bare and the sun smiled down on the leaves as if in praise. Can we help our children? Of course you can, for you know that all their lives these leaves had been doing good and even now they are helping. Let us, too, try to spend our lives in helping others and thus gain God's blessing.

Mizpah S. Greene.

Allen.—Eugene Francis Allen, a grocer for many years, and a resident of Robins, Iowa, for thirty-two years, died at his home here on Monday, November 17, 1947, following a brief illness. Mr. Allen was born March 6, 1854, in Livingston, N. Y.

In 1883, he was married to Miss Ida Mentzer, with whom he spent a happy life. In the same union were born three children, Mabel, Charlotte Ame­lie, and Amy. Mr. Allen was also a member of the First Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church.

When summer came and we complained of the heat, she said, "Do you call this hot? Over here we have blood heat!"

Funeral services were held in Marson, Iowa, after which the body was brought to Nortonville, Kansas, and interred in that town's cemetery.

Mrs. John Greene.

Farewell services were held at the First Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church, conducted by the pastor, Robert T. Harris, officiant. Interment was in Nortonville Cemetery.

Burwick.—Clark Truman was born at West Clarke, Illinois, October 13, 1886, and died in Nortonville, Kansas, December 22, 1947, at his late home in Alfred, N. Y.

He was one of six children born to Maxson and Martha Compton Burwick, of whom one sister, Mrs. William Jacob, survives. Also surviving are one son, Ira F. of Lombard, Ill.; and a daughter, Frederica Jones of Andover, N. Y.; three grand­daughters, and two grand­daughters.

The wife and mother of his children, Ida Olive Almarie, she married Mrs. William Jacox, survives. Also surviving are one son, Ira F. of Lombard, Ill.; and a daughter, Frederica Jones of Andover, N. Y.; three grand­daughters, and two grand­daughters.

Mrs. Rosanna Johnson of Alfred Station, who passed away in 1943.

He was married by Rev. N. V. Hull and joined the First Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church, where he has been a member for seventy-three years.

The funeral services were held at the home in Alfred, October 26, 1947, conducted by Pastor Everett T. Harris. Interment was in Alfred Rural Cemetery.

Bennhoff.—James D., son of Lyle and Emma Roscoe Bennhoff, was born June 26, 1886, to Alfred, N. Y., and died November 27, 1947.

He was a graduate of Alfred University and had taken postgraduate work at Cornell. He taught school for many years and was with the Steinheim Museum for several years. For the past thirty years he has been a licensed veterinarian.

He is survived by his wife, Gertrude Ford Bennhoff, and his two brothers, Lyle and Artie, both of Alfred, N. Y. Also surviving are several cousins, among whom are William G. Nichols of Bolivar, N. Y.; Judson and Steven Roschub of Port Edwards, Wis.; Waldo Roschub of Milwood, Wash.; and several cousins on his father's side.

He joined the First Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church in 1912. Funeral services were held at the First Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church, conducted by the pastor. Interment was in Alfred Rural Cemetery.

Mrs. John Greene.

Pensel.—Charles Elsworth, son of Albert and Lucretia Randolph Pensel, was born at Farm, Ill., January 16, 1871, and died suddenly at Ft. Myers, Fla., November 16, 1947, where he and Mrs. Pensel had arrived but two days previously.

On March 12, 1892, he became a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church at Farmi, and through the years was a faithful, efficient member. He served as trustee, as Sabbath school teacher, and was, since 1940, the moderator of the Church.

He served the village and community in many ways: eight years as county supervisor, as president of the board of aldermen, and later, as president of the Farina State Bank, and of the Farina Building and Loan. He was one of the original founders of the prominent southern Illinois fruit grower. He was a friend of honesty and justice, purity and honor so highly developed that any infraction of these principles would be resisted by his strong character. He will not only be missed by his family, but by all who knew him for his business ability and his Christian associations.

He was united in marriage to Miss Iora Rand­olph, of Farm, Ill., December 31, 1893, and later that year sailed for the South Pacific. Here he was a grocer for many years, and served as employ­ed for the United States Navy.

After his death, the moderator of the Church, Witter Stillman, was born July 26, 1906, at Alfred, N. Y., and died November 6, 1947, at San Juan Capistrano, Calif.

He was employed by the San Diego Gas and Electric Company and was working as a lineman at the time of his death, which occurred during World War II, and spent two years with the U. S. Navy.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs.零部件 Stillman of Hornell, N. Y.; two daughters, Mrs. John Hunt and Mrs. John Ferrill; two sons, Mrs. Arthur E. Gough, and Pierre; his mother, Mrs. Ella Stillman of Jamestown, N. Y.; two sisters, Mrs. Anna Gromacki of Buffalo and Mrs. Orville Williams of Verona, N. Y.; and one brother, Ellis of Clark­burg, N. Y.

He was a member of the First Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church, joined by baptism July 6, 1940, the Carewville School at the First Alfred Church, November 14, 1947, conducted by the pastor, Rev. Glenn G. Morgan.

Of course you will be missed by all who knew you, particularly by those who remember your splendid record of service for the many years you were a member of the Church.

The funeral services were held at Alfred, conducted by the pastor, Rev. Glenn G. Morgan, assisted at the grave. Interment was in Alfred Rural Cemetery.

Mrs. John Greene.

The blessing of the leaves.

Not many weeks ago I looked out of my window toward the woods upon the hill and felt sure Jack Frost had been there, for the leaves had put on their autumn dresses and the trees were dressed in red and gold and brown. But in a few days, North Wind came rushing along the rough, cold way and tender little plants seemed to bow their heads and say, 'What shall we do?' We are sure to freeze.'

The air little leaves high in the trees seemed to hear them and to say, 'Dear Mother Tree, we love you and hate to leave you, but we must go.'

And the North Wind came again, by his way of doing things, and that tender little plants too small to know pretty leaves, you have helped us all summer, but we are strong and do not need the tender plants.

So down went the little leaves and made a warm cover for them, and some of those trees were quite bare and the sun smiled down on the leaves as if in praise. Can we help our children? Of course you can, for you know that all their lives these leaves had been doing good and even now they are helping. Let us, too, try to spend our lives in helping others and thus gain God's blessing.

Mizpah S. Greene.
I am the New Year, and I come to you pure and unstained,
Fresh from the hand of God.
Each day, a precious pearl to you is given
That you must string upon the silver thread of Life.
Once strung can never be unthreaded but stays
An undying record of your faith and skill.
Each golden, minute link you then must weld into the chain of hours
That is no stronger than its weakest link.
Into your hands is given all the wealth and power
To make your life just what you will.
I give to you, free and unstinted, twelve glorious months
Of soothing rain and sunshine golden;
The days for work and rest, the nights for peaceful slumber.
All that I have I give with love unspoken.
All that I ask—you keep the faith unbroken!

—J. D. Templeton, in Quotable Poems, compiled by Clark-Gillespie.