Pastor Babcock during the week previous to the meeting in Battle Creek.

Rev. Neal D. Mills and family, returned missionaries from Jamaica, visited his sister, Mrs. Elma Johnson, after Conference. He spoke here on Sabbath, August 29, his subject being, "Kingdom Building in Jamaica." A fellowship luncheon was held following the service.

A baptismal service was held recently at Diamond Lake. Marvel Cruzan was the only candidate.

Hearing aids have been installed in the church and are proving a benefit to several of our folks. - Z. Branch, Correspondent.

BATTLE CREEK, MICH. — While working on Conference preparations, the Battle Creek Church kept up the regular spring and summer schedules. As has been done for some years, an assistant pastor was secured, this time Don Richards, an Alfred student. He and his wife and baby, Dan, were welcomed at an all-church social the evening of June 13. The couple lived in the Holston Camp cottage. We appreciated Don's sermons, both to the grown-ups and to the children, his work in the Vacation Bible Schools and camps, and his pastoral help. While a three-month-old son demands most of a mother's time, the schools benefited by Edna Ruth's knowledge of handwork. She also acted as counselor to the girls of the senior camp.

The Convis School was directed by Mr. and Mrs. James Gardner, with six able helpers. Two of these were mothers of children attending, plus one who "subbed" for one day. The school was held from July 8 to 12. Instead of the usual type of program, a Moody Bible science film was shown on the Sunday following. The Battle Creek school was in charge of Mrs. W. B. Lewis and was held July 15-26. Ninety-one pupils were enrolled, and twelve teachers were required. Offerings for the Nyasaland Mission amounted to $31.32. An achievement program was given at the close of the two-week school, and was well attended.

On the 7th of July the Primary camp was held. Twenty-five little folks enjoyed studying, singing, swimming, and of course eating. Senior camp was from July 12 to 17, in charge of Rev. Orville Babcock of White Cloud. Some of the young working folks could be on hand part time only, but twenty-three names were registered. Junior camp July 19-24 was presided over by Pastor Wheeler.

About 30 boys and girls registered. We wonder if there is a busier lot of women anywhere than our group, when one adds to the foregoing the preparations for Conference, the Women's Board work, and our local Ladies' Aid Society, which has by no means been neglected. The new president, Marilyn Merchant, is already carrying on like a veteran. We are not forgetting a salute to the men, who have their hands full all the time.

The summer has brought much Christian fellowship and many rich experiences. We hardly feel the need of a Fall Rally and feel that the new year's work can be looked forward to with fresh vigor and enthusiasm. — E. M., Correspondent.

Accesions

Baptism

Denver, Colo.

Gerald Lynn Davis
Baptized by Pastor Davis

Burnett P. Patterson and Ellis Henry Webb

Letter

Ida (Mrs. Ellis) Webb

Marriages

Smith - Crouch — Albert N. Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Smith, Topeka, Kan., and Darlene Crouch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Royal Crouch, Nortonville, Kan. They were united in marriage at the Nortonville Seventh Day Baptist Church, on August 15, 1953. Mrs. Smith is making her home in Nortonville, while the groom is in the U. S. Army, overseas.

Pickens - Bond — Robert E. Pickens, son of Mrs. LaVerna Pickens, Nortonville, Kan., and Helen A. Bond, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Bond, Nortonville, Kan., were united in marriage at the Nortonville Seventh Day Baptist Church on August 29, 1953, with Pastor Duane L. Davis officiating. They will make their home at 321 Orchard, Topeka, Kan.

Correction: The date of the Coll-Swiger marriage should have been May 17 instead of June 17. See Recorder of August 31.

Births

Sanford — A son, Dean Victor, to Rev. and Mrs. Don A. Sanford of Andover, N. Y., on August 31, 1953.

Burdick — A son, David Grant, to Mr. and Mrs. Dick Burdick, Wheatridge, Colo., on May 30, 1953.

Huber — A daughter, Kandy Laine, to Mr. and Mrs. Willard Huber, Denver, Colo.
The Sabbath Recorder

First Issue June 13, 1844
A Magazine for Christian Enlightenment and Inspiration Members of the Associated Church Press

REV. LEON M. MALTRY, Editor

Contributing Editors:

MISSIONS
Everett T. Harris, D. D.

WOMEN'S WORK
Mrs. A. Russel Maxon

CHRISTIANS IN ILLUSTRATION
Ben R. Crofoot, D. D., Ph.D.

CHILDREN'S PAGE
Mizpah S. Greene

Terms of Subscription
Per Year ....... $5.00
Single copies .... 10 cents
Special rates for students, retired Seventh Day Baptist ministers, and servicemen.

Entered at the post office in Plainfield, N. J., as second class matter. The Sabbath Recorder does not necessarily endorse signed articles. All communications should be addressed to the Sabbath Recorder, Plainfield, N. J.

PLAINFIELD, N. J. SEPTEMBER 28, 1953
Vol. 135, No. 11 Whole No. 5,360

Oxnam and Ward Again in the News Headlines

The Bishop Oxnam hearing before the House on-American Activities Committee took place on July 21 was commented upon in the August 17 issue. (The full text of the hearing, running to 51 pages, can be read in the August 7 issue of the U.S. News and World Report.) It goes into the ears again in relation to Dr. Harry F. Ward, whose name was associated with Bishop Oxnam in several pages of the report of that hearing. Nowlin a press release dated September 13, Dr. Ward emphatically denies ever having been a member of the Communist Party.

Conclusion is likely to reign in the minds of uninformed Christians. We feel it is our duty to disperse a little of that confusion and to help our readers to think clearly with the facts before them. It is not a matter that we can dismiss with a shrug of the shoulders, for we are a part of the political and religious world in which we live. We all go to our own theological seminaries. They are free to choose the type of school and type of professors which they desire. They are not a matter that we can dismiss with a shrug of the shoulders.

We believe, as stated before, that Bishop Oxnam effectively cleared himself of any intent to serve the interests of the Communist Party. This determination of Dr. Ward of Union Theological Seminary we cannot be quite so sure. Dr. Ward has sharply rebuked Representative Harold H. Velde, of the House un-American Activities Committee, for "attempting to spread into the churches fear, prejudice, and hate," and thereby "weakening the power of the Protestant conscience, and intimidating the voice of its pulpit."

He further asserts that he has never been a member of any political party and therefore not of the Communist Party. Neither have any of his actions been directed by that party, he asserts.

In the light of what came out in the Oxnam hearing it is interesting to note that this theological professor does not clearly say that he has not been in effect a member of the Communist Party in the past.

Benjamin Gitlow, one of the founders and organizers of the Communist Party in the United States, testified that when the Party was organized in 1919, Dr. Ward was already a convinced Communist. If one accepts such testimony he might well heed what Bishop Oxnam himself said about Ward.

In the testimony Oxnam pays him high praise for some of the work that he did for the Methodist Church at one time in his ministry but now qualifies his esteem of the man. Here we quote the bishop:

"There came a time in my mind when I believed that Professor Ward had shifted his views concerning the whole Communist question. I found myself in fundamental disagreement with Professor Ward as early as 1928."

"What I am saying is, in 1940 when the American Civil Liberties Union took action barring anyone who believes in totalitarianism from the organization, Professor Ward resigned in protest (he was chairman) which indicated, I think, his attitude upon several matters."

Again on July 19, 1936, Dr. Oxnam wrote a letter to Bishop Charles Wesley Flint containing these words about Professor Ward:

"He takes the Communist position as to objectives and methods. I do not choose to follow him for it. Too often they — his associates — prefer a fight to an advance. They would rather throw bricks than build with them. Unless we are willing to build in their precise blueprint — I should say red-printway ... " (See U.S. News and World Report, August 7, 1953, p. 124.)

One may ask, what do we Seventh Day Baptists care if a few professors in other denominations have departed so far from the true Gospel? Well, we are not necessarily more astute than Bishop Oxnam. We should desire to know what ideas we read in the books of extremely astute than Bishop Oxnam.

"Again on July 19, 1936, Dr. Oxnam took the Communist position as to objectives and methods. I do not choose to follow him for it. Too often they — his associates — prefer a fight to an advance. They would rather throw bricks than build with them. Unless we are willing to build in their precise blueprint — I should say red-printway ... " (See U.S. News and World Report, August 7, 1953, p. 124.)

One may ask, what do we Seventh Day Baptists care if a few professors in other denominations have departed so far from the true Gospel? Well, we are not necessarily more astute than Bishop Oxnam. We should desire to know what ideas we read in the books of extremely liberal writers. A denomination as well as a nation can be weakened by subtle infiltration of ideas that are fundamentally opposed to our basic faith. We can thank God in a non-Pharisaical way that we do not have this type of problem facing us actually. I face other denominations.

Individually we can set up strong perimeter defenses to hold our faith position. Church attendance, Bible study, and daily prayer make strong outposts through the dark nights.

SEPTEMBER 28, 1953

Credit Where It Is Due

The people of our denomination need to be reminded that there are already some good results from having an executive secretary. Some of you know him only through his weekly column in the Sabbath Recorder, which column has been discontinued necessarily with raising the Denominational Budget. We realize that such an acquaintance only is very inadequate.

Something happened at the Battle Creek Conference which may in itself prove the value of having such a secretary. We want to point out that the most outstanding action of Conference grew out of something arranged largely by the new secretary, Mr. Crofoot. In our opinion the most important action of Conference centered around the inclusion of the special gifts to Nyasaland in the budget.

It must not be forgotten that this whole movement which came to such harmonious conclusion on the floor of Conference started with the Co-ordinating Committee supper on Monday night on the eve of Conference. We are not saying that Mr. Crofoot was entirely responsible for it or that it was his leadership all the way through that brought a great mission field definitely into our denominational financial structure. We suggest that he was a member of the special committee of Commission and mission leaders which was set up at that evening meeting there would undoubtedly have had less vision and underscored misunderstandings on the Conference floor.

From our conversations with Mr. Crofoot prior to Conference we believe he was committed to finding ways by which the important special projects could be brought to bear on our complete denominational giving program. That has in some measure been accomplished.

Our secretary did not get adequate opportunity to outline proposed goals for the future. Some of his work is still in the study stage. Much of it will be "behind the scenes." He is not the type of man that some feared when the office was created two years ago. The executive part of his title probably never will be prominent. However, it must be remembered that we have asked him to be an executive...
THE SABBATH RECORDER

President's Column
Rev. Lester G. Osborn

Worldwide Communion is the first special day which faces us. In Seventh Day Baptist churches it comes on October 3. By that time we will be back into the harness again after vacations. School will have started, and the regular routine will be re-established. Let us make this first Sabbath in the new quarter a time of earnest heart-seeking and re-consecration. Pastors and deacons make this a special service — not just something "tacked on" at the end of the morning service. Perhaps it would be well to follow the custom of former years of having "covenant meeting" in connection with the Lord's Supper.

October is "Bible Mastery Month." The book chosen is First Peter. We can read First John each week, and have time for the repeated reading of Peter's epistle. It "presents all the foundational truths of the Christian faith, with special emphasis on the atonement," so it is a supplement to First John. Note the hopeful note as Peter strives to prepare his hearers for victory in suffering.

October also brings the beginning of the new budget year for Conference. We do not have the figures on the status of our present budget. A special effort on the part of our people and churches will complete the raising. We are being challenged this year with a budget of $63,121 — $16,486 larger than the past year, a 35% increase. Part of this increase is due to the fact that many projects which have been supported by special contributions have been incorporated into the budget, with the understanding that such contributions, earmarked for special purposes if so desired, will be channeled through the budget. If we really believe in the work of our denomination, and the various projects included, we will raise the budget this year. It means that each individual and church will have to contribute some 20% more to the budget, besides gifts for special projects. We can do it! We have the money. All we need is the vision and the interest and the consecration.

SECRETARY'S COLUMN

September 28, 1953

What does it cost us when we fail to raise our Denominational Budget? Where do the deficits make themselves most seriously felt? What portions of our work shall be made to suffer?

At the end of eleven months, we were still $12,446 short of meeting the budget for the current year — over twice as much as has been given during any single month of the year. If we fail to meet this in September, what will it cost us in the work we are endeavoring to do for God? This amount, distributed among the various agencies, would mean something like the following:

- The Missionary Board would be short nearly $4,000 — more than enough to pay the salaries of the three American workers in Jamaica;
- The Church would be short $1,500 — just about the amount of its appropriation for the printing and distribution of tracts;
- The Board of Christian Education would be short $2,240 — more than half its obligation to our School of Theology;
- Our Ministerial Retirement Fund would be short $600, which would mean the amount needed to pay benefits to three retired ministers for nine and a half months, or almost two thirds of the increase in benefits voted for last Conference.

These are not alternative losses. They all appear simultaneously in the total amount by which the budget fails of completion. And they are only a few of the Christian projects which are hurt by such failure. Can anyone surveying them doubt that there is a real cost to failure to meet the budget? While the total deficits may not be distributed in quite the manner suggested, the cost to God's work is nonetheless real when spread out over all the portions.

The First Sabbath of the 1953 Conference year has passed. There still remains time, however, for devout believers in the importance of our work for God to send all, or at least part of, their means through the mail so that our approach to discharging our obligations will be by that amount closer. Let not God's work suffer.
THE SABBATH RECORDER

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

"Beloved, now are we the sons of God; and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." 1 John 3: 2.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION WEEK

The date of this Recorder coincides with the next Christian Education Week, which is observed nationally and in many of our churches. We shall be glad to print in feature articles or under "News from the Churches" any significant steps taken by our churches to strengthen their Sabbath schools during this period. The new secretary of the Board of Christian Education, Rev. Neal D. Mills, of Alfred, N. Y., will no doubt be anxious to have some of the reports channelled through his office.

Please note the following news release from the broadcasting and film commission of the National Council of Churches:

All the mass communication media will be used during Christian Education Week, September 27 to October 4, to promote the theme "For All Children, Faith in God." The world premiere of the film "Our Children" will be shown on many television stations. The film will be shown on many television stations. The film "For Every Child" will be held simultaneously in the United States, Canada, and Australia. In addition, the film will be shown on many television stations. The film "For Every Child" will be shown in 100 or more major cities in the United States, Canada, and Australia. In addition, the film will be shown on many television stations.

THE GOLDEN BOOK OF BURMA

The Sgaw Karen people are celebrating the centenary of the publication of the Bible in their native tongue. The chief celebration will take place in Taunggyi in November at the meeting there of the Sgaw Karen Baptist Convention.

The Karens are the hill tribes who inhabit the central ranges which form the watersheds of the great southward-flowing rivers of Burma. In 1828 these first Baptist missionaries began work among the Karens, in 1828 they met with a rapid and enthusiastic response. An ancient legend existed among them which foretold that strangers would come out of the West bringing with them the "Golden Book" of wisdom and truth, which the people had once possessed but lost.

The Karens are reputed to be descendants of Chinese tribes who made their way originally into Burma from the western fringes of the Gobi Desert and were driven southward. It is possible, therefore, that the prophesy of the Golden Book and other legends of a markedly Biblical flavor which linger among them may be echoes from the teachings of the Christian missionaries who traversed Central Asia in the 8th century and made their way into China, bearing the Holy Scriptures with them.

The British and Foreign Bible Society is taking a special part in the Sgaw Karen Bible Centenary celebrations by publishing Bibles and New Testaments with a special inscription printed in gold on the cover. This reads: "Sgaw Karen Bible Centenary 1853-1953. Thy Word is Truth." The Karen people still call it "The Golden Book."

ASSOCIATION MEETING

The North Central Association will meet with the Dodge Center Seventh Day Baptist Church on October 2, 3, and 4, 1953, beginning Sabbath eve at 8 o'clock and continuing through Sunday afternoon.


Walter Cocker, President.
Mrs. Douglas North, Secretary.

NEW SECRETARY OF WORLD COUNCIL

Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert has been elected Executive Secretary of the United States Conference for the World Council of Churches, according to an announcement from the Executive Committee of that body which met September 15, in New York City. He will have responsibility for the work carried on by the thirty-one American churches (denominations), which are members of the World Council, but he will also be a member of the world staff which represents 161 member churches in 48 countries. Dr. Cavert will assume his new duties with the World Council in February, 1954.

Dr. Cavert's retirement from the National Council on February 1 will culminate thirty-five years of service to the National Council and the Federal Council of Churches, which was one of the twelve interdenominational agencies which merged into that body in 1949.

As the new Executive Secretary for the U. S. Conference for the World Council, he will have an important role in the Second World Assembly, to be held at Evanston, Ill., in August, 1954.

Dr. Cavert is well known to many Seventh Day Baptist leaders. He spoke at our General Conference at Salem, W. Va., in 1950 in connection with a forum on "Our Interdenominational Affiliations."

SALEM COLLEGE

AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

During this next semester, the following courses will be offered in the field of Bible: Life and Teachings of Jesus (2 hours credit) -- Rev. Ralph Coon Old Testament as Literature (2 hours credit) -- Rev. C. W. F. Hansen Beginning Hebrew (3 hours credit) -- Rev. C. W. F. Hansen.

The following 2-hour courses in Christian Education will be taught by Rev. Rex Zwiebel: (1) Material and Aids in Christian Education; (2) Personal Evangelism; (3) Sunday Schools, (4) Local Church and Practicum, providing practical experience in the field of Christian Education. -- From Salem Church Bulletin.

SEPTMBER 28, 1953

TRACT BOARD MEETING

The American Sabbath Tract Society held its annual meeting for election of officers in connection with the quarterly meeting of the Board of Trustees Sunday afternoon, September 13. There were about sixteen members present in the spacious board room on the second floor of the Denominational Building. Three of the South Jersey members were in attendance, the others were from the Plainfield area, with Rev. Executive Secretary Crofoot, whose duty it is to attend the meetings of all boards.

The reports showed increasing activity in several lines. There seemed to be provision to meet all the present financial needs of various committees with the exception of tract publication. It is disturbing to find several tracts almost out of stock and many calls for the publication of new tracts. It is in this vital part of our work that the Tract Society feels the pinch of a partly raised Denominational Budget. It is here also that most of the suggestions come for expansion of the work.

During the meeting the thoughtful and far-reaching suggestions made by the Conference Committee on Publishing Interests were read. The president was empowered to refer the suggestions to the various committees concerned. Those who were at Conference will remember that lay committee suggestions were made about how to increase Recorder subscriptions, how to improve and enlarge our tract ministry, and among other things, how to improve the audio-visual department. It is hoped that some of the suggestions can be put into effect very soon.

In the election of officers and assignment of members to committees it was necessary to replace S. Kenneth Davis who has moved to Ohio. Iris S. Malby was named to the Board of Trustees in his place.

The secretary's records showed a total of 6,792 tracts sent out during the quarter, about four fifths of them since Conference. There has also been a sharp increase in the demand for our larger pamphlets and books.
NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

VERONA, N. Y. — The Ladies’ Aid Society was entertained Sunday, August 30, at the home of Mrs. Orville Williams. Mrs. Marian Sholtz had charge of the worship program. Her subject was, “Accepting Limitations.” She read the story of “The Whittler of Cremona.” Supper was served on the shady lawn.

Several from our church have attended some of the Billy Graham meetings held in Syracuse during the past month. Some of the children were taken to the special children’s service during the meetings.

Pastor and Mrs. V. W. Skaggs and family spent the first week of September at Camp Wabasso near Watertown.

A business meeting was held at our church on the evening of September 5. It was decided to begin building the addition to the church this month.

The slides and talk given by Rev. Ronald Barrar were greatly enjoyed. A contribution of $64 was made toward a car for use in the Nyasaland Mission.

The Boosters Sabbath School Class met with Mr. and Mrs. Ray Bartholomew on Sunday evening, September 6. The worship program was in charge of Pastor and Mrs. Skaggs, the subject, “Keeping Our Poise in Daily Living.” The class plans to have its fall retreat early in October.

NORTONVILLE, KAN. — Pastor Davis planned special Sabbath services on August 1 in recognition of slight changes in the Church Covenant. The Nortonville News printed copies of the new covenant and made them a gift to the church. Following roll call in the afternoon, Asa Prentice presented guest book and pen, and a desk to the church. Miss Nannie Greeley was responsible for the lovely guest book and pen.

Our pastor attended General Conference and was a teacher and counselor at the Pre-Conference Retreat. Billy Stephans also attended. Others who went to Conference were Mr. and Mrs. Ed Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Wheeler, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Smith, and Asa Prentice. Ed Johnson is the new church moderator.

Promotion Day was observed in the Sabbath school, Sept. 26. On Sept. 19, the pastor began a series of church membership training classes. Young people who are interested were invited to the parsonage for Sabbath day lunch. The membership classes are held following the luncheon.

The old barn at the parsonage has been torn down and a garage erected in its place. — Mrs. Laurence Niemann, Correspondent.

MID-CONTINENT ASSOCIATION

OCTOBER 9, 10, 11

The Nortonville, North Loup, Denver, and Boulder Churches have agreed to hold the fall meeting of the Mid-Continent Association of Seventh Day Baptists at Nortonville, Kan., on October 9, 10, 11, to allow for larger participation in the ordination services for Duane Davis, Nortonville’s young pastor. Lone Sabbath-keepers in that large area will no doubt want to make plans to be at those doubly important meetings.

LET’S THINK IT OVER

In Europe, theological liberalism apparently is willing to operate under that name. The International Congress for Toleration met in Geneva from August 21-23. Two of the three sponsoring groups under whose auspices it met were the International Association for Liberal Christianity and Religious Freedom and the Swiss Union for Liberal Christianity, as reported by Ecumenical Press Service. Percival F. Brundage of New York presided over the meeting. There were participants from many countries.

Perhaps our people should “call a spade a spade.”

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for October 10, 1953

God’s Design for New Men

Lesson Scripture: Jeremiah 31. 31-34; 1 Peter 1: 13-16, 22-23.

Lesson material contributed by Albert N. Rogers.


Missionaries En Route to Nyasaland

Beth Severe (left) and Joan Clement (right) should have their feet on South African soil by the time this Recorder reaches its first readers. Two highly trained, resourceful girls hopefully, unflinchingly, undauntedly go out to heal the sick, teach the children, and witness for Christ as representatives of Seventh Day Baptists in Nyasaland, Africa. They expected to disembark at Capetown about October 3, and to reach their mission station a week later by rail. Though far away they can be reached instantly on the wings of prayer or within a week by the slower means of air letter.

Address: Makapwa Mission (S.D.B.), P. O. Sandama, Nyasaland, B.C.A.