NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

WASHINGTON, D. C. — October 30 is Salem College Day at the Washington Church, meeting at 1628 16th St. NW. The church under the leadership of Rev. Elizabeth F. Randolph invites all friends of the church and the college to be present to welcome the representatives of the faculty and student body who will conduct the special service. The program is under the direction of Rev. Rex E. Zwiebel, instructor in Christian Education at Salem.

LOST CREEK, W. VA. — During the regular semiannual meetings of the West Virginia Seventh Day Baptist churches, the Lost Creek Church ordained two deacons: Leland Bond and Carroll Bond. The ordination council was made up of selected delegates from the churches with Rev. Ralph Coon as moderator and Miss Althea Randolph as clerk.

The statements of the deacons-elect were forthright and rang with sincerity. The ordination prayer was given by Deacon Roy F. Randolph of the Salem Church. The men were welcomed to the diaconate by Deacon Erlow Davis of the Lost Creek Church. When time was allowed for remarks, a letter was read from Dr. O. B. Bond, missionary to Jamaica, which reads in part:

"It has been my happy privilege to have known a bit of the lineage of these two men as far back as Carroll's great-grandmother and as far back as Leland's great-great-grandmother and to know that she was one and the same woman. . . . We wish to personally commend these two candidates as worthy exponents of practical Christian living."

The ordination prayer was given by Pastor Zwiebel, with the benediction being pronounced by Rev. James L. Skaggs.

A worship service was held in the afternoon with the ordination sermon preached by Rev. Ralph Coon, Bible professor of Salem College. During this service the young adult class of the Lost Creek Church presented a beautiful yellow rose to those of the church who had been members for 50 or more years. Those who received roses were Mrs. Althea Randolph and Mrs. Elva Bond who have been active members for 75 years; Miss Githhea Davis, Deacon Stephen Kennedy, Mrs. Antha Davis, Dr. S. O. Bond, Mrs. Cora Randolph, for 64 years; Miss Josie Paugh, for 63 years; Deacon S. Erlow Davis, for 62 years; Deacon H. O. Van Horn, Clate Bond, for 60 years; Mrs. Gertrude Davis, Russell Kennedy, for 58 years; and Miss Cretah Randolph, for 50 years. Miss Randolph is the daughter of Mrs. Althea Randolph. Nine of those who received flowers were present and three were detained at home by temporary illness.

EDINBURG, TEXAS. — A clipping from the Edinburg paper sent in by our correspondent carries a large picture of Deacon and Mrs. Jay Van Horn taken on the occasion of the celebration of their sixty-second wedding anniversary. They were married at North Loup, Neb., September 27, 1892, and have lived in Edinburg since 1920. The people of the church surprised them with gifts and flowers.

The church, located at South Fourth and Hill Drive, leads out in temperance work in this city of over 12,000. The Loyal Temperance Legion held its first fall meeting in the church on Sept. 20.

Obituaries

Hull, — Frank Clifton, son of Richard E. and Jennie Hurley Hull, was born Oct. 7, 1885, near Milton, Wis., and died following surgery in Mercy Hospital, Janesville, Wis., on July 10, 1954.

He is survived by his wife, the former Kathryn Thiele; five sons: Philip, Richard, Donald, Vivian, and Warren; two daughters, Kathryn and Mrs. Marion Kumlein; 18 grandchildren; and two sisters, Mrs. Grace M. Oakley and Mrs. Fay B. Coon of Milton. Burial was in the Milton Cemetery, Rev. Elmo F. Randolph officiating.


He was married on Aug. 16, 1902, at Gentry, Ark., to Luella Stillman who survives him. Also surviving are: one daughter, Elizabeth Equels, of Mt. Vernon, Wash.; a son, Col. Robert Hurley, stationed at Hamilton Air Force Base, Calif.; four grandchildren; and a sister, Mrs. Gertrude A. Campbell of Riverside, Calif.

Until two years ago his home had been for many years in Long Beach, Calif. Funeral services were held in Mt. Vernon Sept. 7, and burial was in Acesa Memorial Park, near Seattle, Wash.

Gertrude A. Campbell.
The Sabbath Recorder

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We are told that no evangelist in modern times has developed such careful followers as Billy Graham, and we have every reason to believe that most of the converts find satisfactory church homes. Another indication of the same thing is the report from the 30th Century Crusade for Christ, Inc., which features the evangelistic work of the converted Jew, Dr. Hyman Gross. For one campaign in three different states during September, there were 600 people dealt with in the inquiry rooms. Of these people, 250 had been voted into the sponsoring churches before October 6.

IS CHURCH UNITY THE GOAL?

They announced church unity as a goal, but almost everybody must have had reservations at the World Council of Churches. Archbishop Michael of the Greek Orthodox Church is in an extreme position in this regard. He publicly declared, 'The Holy Orthodox Church alone has preserved in full and intact the Faith once delivered to the holy apostles and this faith is the home of divine worship which is distinct from any other church. For him there could be no reunion except as all other churches returned to the fold of the Green Orthodox Church.'

It is very distressing to him to note that some Protestant churches were laying plans for carrying on work in Russia if and when the Iron Curtain is lifted. To him that vast land is strictly the domain of his church and any intrusion should be condemned as proselytism.

This sounds strange to our ears and strangely like the position of the Roman Church. From other sources we learn that there are now in Russia 5,000 Baptist churches with a membership of 512,000. Many of these churches are full to overflowing at the one worship service which is allowed by the civil authorities. We wonder what the archbishop would do about these churches if he had the power. This power is further evidenced by surprisingly well-authenticated claims of the Evangelical Church of Greece that their people are suffering persecution at the hands of the church which Archbishop Michael represents. Looking on from the sidelines one can hardly refrain from asking which of these two churches has the power and which of these two churches is the greater sin, proselytizing or persecution?

To agree not to promote our convictions of truth and godliness by private persuasion or public preaching, would be contrary to the genius of Protestantism. Seventh Day Baptists would not stand alone in making room in religion for the Greek Orthodox leader. Almost all denominations are guilty of proselytism if the term has such vast territorial connotations as he suggests. We could not possibly conclude that God has not called us to do missionary work in such countries as Jamaica and Syria where the lands under British control and Britain has a State Church.

We can use much more of the mutual understanding that was nurtured at Evanston, but the problems of unity are far from solved at that gathering. We as a denomination have the idea of the idea. As a minority holding tenaciously to the conviction that God's holy Sabbath ought to be honored we must have a denomination that accepts that truth. Our denominational split-off from others three centuries ago cannot be accepted as sinful for 'sin is the transgression of the law.' And what we contend for is obedience to the moral law.

Fortunately, the position of minority groups like us, not seven or eight, have been endangered at the WCC Assembly. The spirit of Christian tolerance and brotherhood appears to be on the increase. Perhaps it would be more so if the Greek Orthodox Church were not a member.

BOOK CLUBS

When the writer of Ecclesiastes coined the expression, 'Making many books there is no end,' he should have extended the remark to include book clubs. Most of us are quite confused trying to distinguish between the bewildering names. Your editor does not belong to any popular book club but the same problem confronts some of our readers. However, this new book club offers better new book premiums than any other club and buying the first selection, the selection of thoughtful religious books that are of little lasting value.

Another new club has been organized which, in our opinion, is going to be more helpful to the Christian who wants the benefit of scholarly sound advice in the selection of thoughtful religious books of the nonfiction type. Furthermore, this Evangelical Book Club, as it is called, offers better new book premiums than any club that has come to our attention. For example, the introductory premium is one of the newest and, we believe, best of all the single volume commentaries on the whole Bible. We have already purchased two copies of the 'New Bible Commentary' listed at $7.95. Now anyone may have it without cost by joining the club and buying the first selection, "America's Spiritual Recovery," at the list price of $2.50. The quality of this book may be indicated by its publisher, Revell, by its author, Edward L. B. Elton, and by the introduction quoted below.

GOOD CITIZENSHIP INCLUDES CHRISTIAN USE OF THE BALLOT

The ballot is perhaps the most important public issue of our day and age. It is the means by which democratic principles are carried into the lives of millions of men. It is the means by which the Christian is able to make the best possible use of that secret ballot, remembering the commandments of God, whom no secrets can be kept.

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The Sabbath Recorder

Secretary's Column

Ministers Now Eligible for Social Security Benefits

Amendments to the Federal Social Security law which were adopted this past summer make it possible for ministers to take advantage of that law’s privileges if they individually so elect. Because they recognized that some ministers regard the assurance of retirement benefits to the ministry by the Government as an entering wedge for interference by the state with the church, framers of the amendments left the choice to the individual minister. Once he has made his choice, however, there is no opportunity for him to change his mind.

Since the individual minister determines whether he will come under this particular law, and there is consequently no participation in such election by the employing church, ministers are classified as “self-employed” persons. This also means that the entire tax is borne by the individual, and there is consequently no matching tax burden on the employer as is the case where a recognized employer-employee relationship exists. The self-employed person’s tax is therefore fifty per cent higher than that paid for industrial employees. Thus the social security tax for a minister for the next five years will be three per cent of income earned as a minister up to $4,200 per year and further provided he has earned a minimum of $400 during the year.

Retirement benefits are determined by the monthly average income on which the tax has been paid, but in no event will they be less than $30 a month provided the person is “fully covered” at time of retirement, nor more than $108.50 for any individual. There are also dependent benefits, and a widow of an insured person is entitled to survivor’s benefit of half the retirement allowance if she is past 65.

Complete information can be obtained from the nearest Social Security office from the nearest Social Security office.

RELIGION IN AMERICAN LIFE

Rev. Lee Holloway, Chairman

Seventh Day Baptist pastors and lay leaders are urged to participate in and take advantage of Religion In American Life (RIAL) month which is the month of November. The RIAL movement is a drive to encourage dedication of attendance and support for all religious groups. Started in 1949, it is sponsored by a laymen’s committee composed of members of the major faiths and headed by Charles E. Wilson, former president of General Electric Co.

The theme for 1954 is: “He restoreth my soul. He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness.” Ps. 23:1. It forms the central theme for an illustration showing a family entering its house of worship. When you see this picture on television, radio, in newspapers and magazines, and hear it on the radio, thank the organization known as the Advertising Council. For a number of years, industries, including American business, have donated millions of dollars’ worth of free advertising in support of all religious institutions. The value of their gift for 1954 has been estimated to be worth about $5,500,000.

While listening recently to one of my friends narrating a story in a village here, I heard him relate the following story:

“Many years ago there lived in Rivers Province an old man who had an only son whom he dearly loved. Anything that the son asked for, the father freely gave him. In spite of all this, however, the conduct of the young man was bad, and finally when a man was murdered in their village, it was proved that the young man had committed the crime. The judge decided that the young man should be hanged from a gallows in the village. The old man pleaded for his son, but in vain. Finally the old man said, ‘I have given my son all that I have; he is young and I am old and life has no sweetness more for me. Let me die in the place of my son.’

“So it was agreed that the old man should die for his son. When the time came, the old man walked bravely to the foot of the big tree, but when he looked at the rope, it was very strong, and when he looked around, he saw the cross and the love in the face of his son. Finally the old man said, ‘You see, brothers and sisters, the sacrifice was too big for him to give. He dearly loved his son, but the last gift was too heavy for him to carry.’

“Suppose that when Jesus looked at the cross, He had turned back and counted the way too hard and the sacrifice too big for Him to make. If He had done this, brethren, what hope should we have of reaching heaven and receiving eternal life? Is any sacrifice too great for us to make for Jesus? If a man or a woman is not willing and glad to give his or her money, it will be very hard for him or her to give his or her heart to Jesus.

“Now, brothers and sisters in Christ, 27th March, 1954, is declared the Week of Remembering Christ’s Sacrifice when each and every one of us will give freely according to our ability to help the work of God. Is it good for us to say that we love Jesus, unless we are also willing to sacrifice for Him and His kingdom?

“Let us not neglect March 27, showing that our love is not word only but also in deed. Let us open our Bible, and while you teacher asks questions, let one of us read the answers from the Holy Bible:

1. What kind of mind should Christians have? — Phil. 2: 5.
2. What does it mean to have the mind of Christ? — Phil. 2: 6-8; John 3: 16.
3. How should our love be manifest? — 1 John 3: 18.
4. What did the Philippine Church do for Paul? — Phil. 4: 15-16.
6. When the Philippine Church gave money to help Paul preach the Gospel what did Paul say this was to God? — Phil. 4: 18.
7. Does God forget anything we do to strengthen our brethren or to prosper our Lord’s work? — Malachi 3: 16-17.
8. What kind of people will be gathered in to the kingdom of the Master of the Reapers, who is Jesus, comes? — Psalm 50: 3-5.

May God grant that this Week of Remembering Christ’s Sacrifice prove a blessing to us all and that the work of God may be strengthened as we freely give and sacrifice to help forward His cause.


SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

For November 13, 1954

A Study in Values


COME TO THE SABBATH RECORDER FOR THE SABBATH AND SCHOOL LESSON FOR NOVEMBER 27, 1954

NOVEMBER 1, 1954

Week of Remembering Christ’s Sacrifice

Pastor Oyibo N. Imegi
Nigerian Union Mission of Seventh Day Baptist Churches

While listening recently to one of my friends narrating a story in a village here, I heard him relate the following story:

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May God grant that this Week of Remembering Christ’s Sacrifice prove a blessing to us all and that the work of God may be strengthened as we freely give and sacrifice to help forward His cause.


The new president of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference, Attorney Clarence Rogers, of Salem, W. Va., was present at the Mid-Continent Association meeting at Boulder, Colo., and gave an address on Sabbath afternoon, October 9. He also was present at the North Central Association at Milton Junction the following weekend, and gave a talk the evening after the Sabbath outlining his plans for next year’s Conference in Arkansas.
TEMPERANCE AND THE ELECTION

Marie M. Burdick, Riverside, Calif.

By a strange paradox, the same government that never relaxes its vigilance on dope peddlers (we’re glad they don’t) openly licenses the best-known narcotic because it is served with taxes! Can it be that these taxes are the knockout drops supposed to put the nation into a sleep? Why do we — our state — forget to people and then punish them for getting drunk? The road from the social cocktail to alcoholism is much longer and more winding than the short cut from marihuana to dope addition; but the longer the way the more lingering the suffering and tragedy for all concerned. The alluring signals completely obscure the danger signals. They never even hint that liquor is narcotic.

But how about us? What can we do about it? The Chinese have an axiom:

There are three ways to meet a problem.

1. Run from it — cowardly.
2. Go around it — no good, you’ll meet it when you get around.
3. Pick it up and carry it.

Carry it — not the liquor but the problem? Carry it? Dispose of it. More and more people are seeing the need and some progress has been made.

For some years it has been impossible to have a coast-to-coast network for a temperance talk. But the iron curtain has been pierced and on Sunday, November 21, at 4:00 p.m. we hope to hear Dr. Sam Morris give a temperance talk from Dallas, Texas, over NBC — national, coast-to-coast! Last May at the public hearing on the Lamer Ball, Mr. Morris exposed the refusal of the American radio stations and network managers to sell time to the dry forces to counteract the glamorous pro-drinking appeals over Radio and TV networks. Commissioners were astonished and indignant. The result is that Dr. Morris has been given permission to buy a regular weekly broadcast. He is paying for this one himself hoping that it will be the beginning of many more.

Here is an opportunity to pick up this problem and go forward in our effort to wake up our people about the country is in. Remember that God condemned Cain when he tried to excuse himself, with his brother’s keeper? What can we do about it? Carry the problem?

PACIFIC COAST ASSOCIATION

Evelyn Ring, Corr. Secretary

The Pacific Coast Association met with the Los Angeles Church for its regular fall meeting October 8-10 with a full weekend of services instead of the usual Friday evening and Sabbath day devotions. Rev. Alton Wheeler of the Riverside Church delivered a series of sermons on the theme "Declaring His Glory," taken from Psalm 19. Friday evening his message was "Reflecting His Glory," Saturday morning, "Sharing His Glory," and on the evening after the Sabbath, "The Lord Favors the Work of His Hands." The evening was followed by a praise and testimony service led by Pastor Lawton.

Sabbath school was in charge of Frank Ferro, superintendent, with Albyn Mackin­toch teaching the adult class and Pastor Lawton the class for young people. The intermediate and junior classes held separate classes in the classroom wing.

Edith and Arlie Davis of Phoenix, Ariz., arranged the young people’s hour on Sab­bath afternoon, an interesting part of which was some religious magic performed by their son, Milton. It was followed by a music program in charge of Sarah Becker, Dale Curtis, and Marie Burdick, highlighting some of our mission fields and stressing some of the less-head-about ones as well as those in Jamaica and Nyasaland. Interest was stimulated through the use of maps and tape recordings.

"How many people in various vocations desire to be trained for the services of the Sunday morning service by Pastors Henry C. Lewis of the Los Angeles Christ Church, Alton Wheeler, and Leon Lawton. Music for the association by the com-

bined choirs of the Riverside and Los Angeles Churches was directed by Malita Curtis and Lois Wells, with some special solos and number quartets and a chorus medley by the Melody Maids from Los Angeles.

Following a picnic supper in Sycamore Glen park, the Sabbath evening saw a dramatic and an evening service of organ meditations, sing-spiration, and a message by Pastor Lawton, a fellowship social hour was arranged on the church patio. The group enjoyed a program of games and stunts arranged by Harriette Maddox, Bob Hurley, and Dave Ahlborn.

The spring meeting of the association will be held with the Riverside Church in April, 1935.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

NORTH LOUP, NEB. — Open House, at the home of Marcia Rood, on Oct. 17, marked the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Lucien LeRoy and Nina Rood Lewis. Mr. and Mrs. Rood received 250 guests and gifts from nearly one hundred friends, and more greetings and gifts came from friends afar. This is the fourth Golden Wedding observance of this family. Mrs. Lewis' parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Rood, had 56 years of wedded life; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Williams (Bertha) observed their 55th anniversary March 1, 1954; Mr. and Mrs. Byron Rood of Milton, Wis., their 50th, July 6, 1954.

Mrs. Lewis' grandfather, Charles Pers­sons Rood, was the instigator of the movement that resulted in the locating of the Seventh Day Baptist colony at North Loup, Neb., and her father, Charles Judson Rood, led the singing at the first service, May 18, 1872, near the North Loup River, at a mission post where a marker now stands. The singing was doubtless a cappella.

The church at North Loup was organ­ized March 25, 1873, with 73 members. Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Rood (Marianne Thorngate), Charles J. Rood, and Rosa P. Furrow, who came with the family of her father, John Furrow, from Humboldt, Neb. His grandaughter, Mrs. L. J. Rood and Rosa P. Furrow were married Oct. 30, 1875. As the family grew and lengthened, other names were consistently added until now those of the fifth gener-

ation are adding their names to the roll of members. — Concluded by Marianne Rood Whitford.

The North Loup Church bulletin for October 23 contains the following an­nouncement and request for prayer: "After the Evangelistic and revival meetings will begin on Thursday, Nov. 4, with Rev. Duane Davis of Newtonville, Kan., as guest speaker. Will you take just a few minutes to pray for them? — just a moment of prayer for the Lord to bless when the people pray.

IRVINGTON, N. J. — On Sabbath afternoon, October 16, twenty-four persons attended a surprise dinner party held in the home of Pastor and Mrs. John Schmid, 27 Otsego Rd., Verona, N. J., to honor the 50th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Zeeb. Mr. and Mrs. Zeeb have been members of the Irvington Church since June 25, 1904. They were married October 9, 1904, in Rutlingen, Germany. The honored guests were pre­sented several pictures. Hymns were sung and photographs were taken. In the evening, many remained to see the Kodachrome slides pictures in color taken by Pastor Schmid while he and Mrs. Schmid and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Schmid were visiting in Germany last summer.

DE RUYTER, N. Y. — The fall meeting of the Central Association, October 9, was very inspirational. Attendance exceeded 150. My, it looked good to see the church so well filled, with extra chairs and people sitting in the balcony. Wouldn't it be nice to have to come to church early to get a seat? It's work and pray for that kind of a church.

The young people's meeting in the evening was also well attended, with over 60 young people and those who brought them there. And your pastor predicted not more than 25?

Receipts for the Lord's Acre bazaar yesterday were $120.50, which has beautiful weather for the bazaar. The fine spirit of unselfish giving, hard work, and co-operation expressed in action by all who participated are worthy of our praise and thanks. By
no means the least value of such efforts is
the opportunity it affords Christians to
discover the satisfaction of working to-
gether.
The men of the church have finished
the parsonage its second coat of
paint — a very attractive job. The men
have pulled and hauled in the Lord's Artc
beans. The men and women of the church
have both been hard at work and things
have certainly been accomplished. Thanks,
fellows! — De Ruyster Church Bulletin.