those in the area who might be interested in attending the services. The pressing need for such aathering has become more and more evident since the Los Angeles Church moved into its new building in the northern part of the county over two years ago. This made it more difficult for some of the members to attend with regularity, made it difficult for the church to serve its members at that distance, and, during the ensuing two and one-half years, others have moved into the southern area. Also new contacts have been made with other Sabbathkeepers who were seeking a church home and place of service.

The meetings will be known by the name, 'Sabbath Christian Fellowship,' and will be non-denominational in nature. Any Sabbathkeepers residing in the area are cordially invited to these services. - An Observer.

Vicsosi Sholtz. - John Vicsosi, son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Vicsosi of Oneida, N. Y., and Twila V. Sholtz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Sholtz of Oneida, were united in marriage on Oct. 3, 1954, in the Seventh Day Baptist Church, Verona, N. Y., by Rev. Victor W. Visco, pastor. The couple will reside at Oneida Castle, N. Y.

Obituaries

Randolph. - Corliss Fitz, son of Franklin and Elizabeth (Fox) Fitz Randolph, was born at New Milton, W. Va., July 24, 1863, and died at his home in Maplewood, N. J., Nov. 6, 1954.

Dr. Randolph was educated in the public schools of West Virginia and at Alfred University, being graduated in 1888. For more than a half century he was an eminently successful educator. For thirty-one years he was principal of the Fifteenth Avenue School of Newark, N. J., retiring in 1923.

An ardent Seventh Day Baptist and active in his church and denomination, his major activity, a service of love, was in the Historical Society, of which he was the president and founder. He gave much time in research in the history of Seventh Day Baptists in America. For thirty years he was president of the American Sabbath Tract Society. For more than forty years Dr. Randolph served as clerk of the First Seventh Day Baptist Church of New York City.

Corliss Fitz Randolph and Marion Melissa Howard were married in 1890. To them was born a daughter, Mildred. Some years after the death of Mrs. Randolph, he was united in marriage with Mrs. Grace Dawson Bell, who, with his daughter, Mildred, survives him. He also leaves three brothers: Jesus Fitz Randolph of Plainfield, N. J., Eise Fitz Randolph of Fairmont, W. Va., and Roy Fitz Randolph of New Milton, W. Va.

The funeral service was held at his late home in Maplewood with Rev. Harold R. Crandall, former pastor of the New York City Church, officiating, assisted by Rev. Carl R. Maxson, present supply of that church, and Dr. Ralph E. Davis, pastor of Morrow Memorial Methodist Church in Maplewood. Rev. John G. Schmid shared in the service at the place of interment in Hillside Cemetery, Plainfield.

H. R. C.

Whipple. - Eola Luella, daughter of Freeborn and Amanda Potter Hamilton, was born at Alfred Station, N. Y., Feb. 27, 1866, and died in Fanwood, N. J., Nov. 2, 1954.

A graduate of Alfred University, she taught school for a number of years. She was united in marriage with Herbert G. Whipple of Ashaway, R. I. Their home was in New York City and later in Yonkers. For about fifteen years after Mr. Whipple's death, Mrs. Whipple made her home in Westerly, R. I. In failing health the past five years, she has been with her son, F. Hamilton Whipple, of Dobbs Ferry, N. Y., and with her daughter, Georgeola (Mrs. Robert Adams) of Fanwood, N. J. She is survived by her children and by four granddaughters. Mrs. Whipple was a member of the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church of Westerly.

The funeral service was held at the Schilke Funeral Home in Westerly on Nov. 5, Rev. Homer R. Crandall and Rev. Charles H. Bond officiating. Interment was in Oak Grove Cemetery, Ashaway.

H. R. C.

Kenyon. - Minnie G. Crandall, daughter of George and Miranda Irish Crandall, was born at Rockville, R. I., May 27, 1875, and died in Westerly, R. I., Nov. 12, 1954.

Fifty-seven years ago Minnie became the wife of Charles N. Kenyon of Hopkinton. Besides her husband she leaves four sons: Howard C., Ralph S., Grant V., and Gillette C., all of Ashaway. There are six grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. She also leaves a brother, George V. Crandall, of Wakefield, R. I. Early in life Mrs. Kenyon united with the Rockville Seventh Day Baptist Church, transferring her membership to the Second Hopkinton Church after her marriage.

The funeral service was held at the Buckler Funeral Home in Westerly, Rev. Harold R. Crandall officiating. Interment was in Oak Grove Cemetery, Ashaway.

H. R. C.
THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH

As we enter again what we have come to call the Advent season we are again brought face to face with the wonder of the beginning of the Gospel story. Although John’s Gospel gives details of the birth of Christ, the story that is told in his first chapter is in some respects more tender and more wonderful than the more earth-centered records of Matthew and Luke. However, the three accounts are as complementary as the angles of a triangle. Since we need all them.

John’s Gospel begins with the preincarnate Word. He affirms that the origin of the world was by the Word at creation. Since no one was present at creation but the Triune Creator all knowledge of the event had to be by revelation. When the fullness of time came for the Redeemer of the world to enter the life stream of humanity, the significance of that event could only be known to the witnesses of it by revelation. It is not so with us who have been able to view the life of Christ as a whole and to experience the redemptive miracle in our lives.

Mary was the first and only woman in all history who gave birth to a child without having known a man; she who was announced by an angel. A heavenly visitant also came to Joseph who was to be the foster father. These and the narratives of the Magi and the shepherds were written down by Mary’s son, John, who refers us to the record of his own experience, taking the others into the compass of that same experience when he says so glowingly, wonderfully, “We beheld his glory, the glory of as of the only begotten of the Father.”

Because of the experience on the Mount of Transfiguration (to which Peter also refers), and all the other glorious experiences of God in Christ Jesus, He is able to open heaven’s gates for all subsequent believers. We who were not privileged to hear the angels at His birth or see the transfiguration at the Mount, were given the transforming joy of knowing that the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. That same Word, though now absent in the flesh is present in the living Word and in the Word of the Living Word.

In the beginning of John’s Gospel with his own personal experience with Christ. He could not say from personal experience, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God,” or that all things were made by this one who was the preincarnate Word. But this is not so. The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us.” It is further emphasized when he adds, “and we beheld his glory, the glory of as of the only begotten of the Father.”

“The Word was made flesh.” John, the one who felt most wonderfully the love whichJesus bestowed upon His disciples—John was much closer historically to the incarnation of God than we are. Yet his experience is something that somehow bridges the gap for us much better than the historical descriptions of the other evangelists. They tell the story of the experiences of shepherds and wise men; John tells his own experience, taking the others into the compass of that same experience when he says so glowingly, wonderfully, “We beheld his glory, the glory of as of the only begotten of the Father.”

SEASONAL RADIO AND TV PROGRAMS

Many are the radio and TV programs at this time of year that ought to have the hearty support of Christian people. It is a matter of information and choice a question of whose hand is on the dial. First of all, we ought to hear and view as many of the Gospel programs as we can—those that are sponsored by individual churches or recognized evangelists. Then there are many put on by interdenomina­

November 20 and will continue for 22 program added to the Broadcasting and with Film Commission. It is called an "off-beat" religious program but it undoubtedly has strong popular appeal. On the ABC network on December 19 at 5:30 p.m., EST, there will be a dramatic program, “No Room at the Inn.” The Greatest Story Ever Told,” of which this is a part, is one of the outstanding pro­

Sabbath Thought

Note that it was the day which God blessed and sanctified. The sanctifying of the seventh day made the institution of the Sabbath. The importance of the day lies in this action of God. Its significance cannot be transferred to another day. — L. G. O., in Ashaway Messenger.
"Across the Executive Secretary's Desk!"

What does a denominational executive secretary do? In the thinking of this particular executive secretary, two basic factors control. One is that an executive secretary works with people and so far as possible assists them in doing their jobs by tapping their thinking, discussion with them, and supplying a certain amount of information and material. In this phase of the job the secretary, of necessity, tries to keep himself in the background as much as possible. The second factor of such a task is that it is extremely varied and the secretary must guard against "mounting his horse and riding off in every direction."

A few of the items which have occupied the time of this executive secretary since Conference are listed below.

(a) Correspondence arising out of Conference itself — courtesy letters, transmittal of resolutions, notifications of elections and appointments.

(b) Visitation to a newly recognized church, delivering the morning message, most readily assist this church to get on its feet.

(c) Notification to association officers of matters referred to them by Conference.

(d) Attendance at annual meetings and board meetings of our major denominational agencies.

(e) Arrangement for our participation in the Biennial Assembly of the National Council of Churches.

(f) "Dream up" promotional angles on Denominational Bulletin and presentation of them through the Secretary's Column of the Sabbath Recorder and by direct appeal.

(g) Participation in a workshop committee of the Western Association with a view to development of a program for recommendation throughout the denomination.

(h) Supply of material and information for Conference-appointed Committee on Publications.

An Ideal Christmas Gift

It would be hard to find a religious or secular magazine that did not claim to be an ideal Christmas gift. The Sabbath Recorder also makes that claim. The Women's Board in its current newsletter to the women in all of our churches has encouraged such gift subscriptions. We believe that for Seventh Day Baptists no gift could be more appropriate, more appreciated, or bring more pleasure to the giver than one or more prepaid subscriptions sent to those of our loved ones or acquaintance who would not otherwise enjoy the weekly visits of our denominational paper. It pulls at our heartstrings to note that some of our underpaid pastors and foreign missionaries are foremost in this matter of gift subscriptions.

The time is short; we would like to make it easy for you. Why not include a subscription with this year's Christmas greeting cards saying, "We are sending you the Sabbath Recorder for 1955?" At the same time you can send the money to our office or ask the office to bill you. If there is a Recorder agent in your church she (or he) will be glad to handle the subscription for you. By special arrangement new subscribers may receive also a year's subscription to "The Upper Room" as a bonus gift at the regular price ($3.00 per year).

We believe that a gift like the Sabbath Recorder should not be sent to new friends unannounced. You should tell them about it and should continue through the year to call to their attention articles which have helped you.

Correction Please

On pages 259 of the December 6 issue the editor stated that the Sabbath school lessons in the Helping Hand for the first quarter of 1955 will not follow the International Lessons topics. He would like to correct this. The topics are similar, but the treatment will be different in those points of doctrine where Seventh Day Baptists differ from some other Protestants.

The International Lessons are entitled "Christian Teaching" and deal with the Bible, the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit, man, grace, new life, the church, prayer, Christian living, etc. We still maintain that every adult class should study what our own pastors have written on these subjects in the Helping Hand. An extra supply will be available this time for late orders.

The Commission of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference will hold its midyear meeting in Salem, W. Va., the week following Christmas. Members of the Commission are: Rev. Elmo F. Randolph, Milton, Ws.; Dr. Lloyd D. Seager, Little Rock, Ark.; Clarence M. Rogers, Salem, W. Va.; Albyn Mackintosh, Los Angeles, Calif.; Rev. Charles H. Bond, Westerly, R. I.; and Rev. Earl Cruzan, Adams Center, N. Y. The executive secretary of the denomination, A. Burdet Crofoot, Alfred, N. Y., is also secretary to the Commission. The president's program plans for the next Conference session, will make such interim decisions as are necessary, and will discuss problems and long-range plans.

CROLLIS FITZ RANDOLPH

1863 - 1954

An Appreciation

J. Nelson Norwood

The passing from earth of Dr. Corliss F. Randolph, November 6, at the advanced age of 91 years, removed from our midst the Nestor among our denominational leaders. For seven years of adult life he has been at the forefront in promoting the name and tenets of Seventh Day Baptists. Few in our membership but have listened to his wise counsel. Most of us have seen and heard him at our denominational meetings. Many knew him personally, valued his friendship, and felt the warmth of his handshake and smile.

Loyalty to our cause deeply colored his busy life. For many years he was president of the American Sabbath Tract Society, and guided its sacred activities. His related service as chairman of the old "Committee on Denominational Literature," was outstanding. He was an architect of that committee in tracts, leaflets, and booklets—bore the marks of his devoted care. His most ambitious publication was the well-known "History of Seventh Day Baptists in West Virginia," of which the present writer has a prized, autographed copy.

A happy hobby with him was the collecting, classifying, and preserving of the denominational records of every sort. He was a prime mover in the formation of the "Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society," which he long served as a trustee, our friend went on to more advanced study.

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An 1888 graduate of Alfred University, he long served as a trustee, our friend went on to more advanced study. Professionally he became widely known and honored as principal of a public school in Newark, N. J., where he served fruitfully for many years.

Collectively the denomination has lost a devoted and dedicated volunteer servant. We all individually mourn a stimulating, sincere, warm-hearted friend. Also we extend our sympathy to the widow and daughter in their sorrow and loneliness.

Midyear Commission Meeting

The Seventh Day Baptist General Conference will hold its midyear meeting in Salem, W. Va., the week following Christmas. Members of the Conference are: Rev. Elmo F. Randolph, Milton, Ws.; Dr. Lloyd D. Seager, Little Rock, Ark.; Clarence M. Rogers, Salem, W. Va.; Albyn Mackintosh, Los Angeles, Calif.; Rev. Charles H. Bond, Westerly, R. I.; and Rev. Earl Cruzan, Adams Center, N. Y. The executive secretary of the denomination, A. Burdet Crofoot, Alfred, N. Y., is also secretary to the Commission. The president's program plans for the next Conference session, will make such interim decisions as are necessary, and will discuss problems and long-range plans.

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THE SABBATH RECORDER

1954 YEAR BOOKS NOW AVAILABLE

Few people realize the painstaking care with which items are checked and double checked before they appear in printed form in our Year Book. The matter of correctness of names alone is a big responsibility — names which are submitted by so many different people and groups intending to be careful and consistent but frequently failing. The editing of such a volume is far more difficult and exacting than almost any other type of book of similar size.

The point of this notice is that the new Year Book has now been edited, printed, bound, and mailed to the churches in the usual quantities, which is roughly 10 copies for each 100 members. More copies may be ordered if requested. The sale price of the book is $1.50.

Unlike other books, in which the author or editor is featured on the title page, it is hard to find the name of the editor. On page 6 of the book, by the way, one will find that the editor is Miss Hazel V. Gamble, Box 708, Plainfield, N. J. For many years she has been the recording secretary at the Recorder Press. None of the many others who have been working hard on this publication receive credit within the volume.

Although the Year Book material supposedly does not go beyond the minutes of the General Conference held in August there have been an attempt made to bring the addresses of ministers and other leaders up to date. The editor regrets that the name of the new recording secretary of the Woman's Board, Mrs. Leland E. Davis, 619 North Ave., Battle Creek, Mich., was received too late to be included. One of the latest items included is the date of the next General Conference at Fayetteville, Ark., August 15-20, 1955. It is found on the back cover.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for December 25, 1954

The Coming of God's Son

Lessons: Scriptures:

Isaiah 9: 6-7; John 1: 1-4, 10-14;
1 John 4: 9-11.

December 13, 1954

Reader's Digest. We laymen are, or should be, salesmen of the greatest thing in the world, and the minister should be a high-pressure salesman and use every method at his command with enthusiasm.

CALIFORNIA CALLS

Rev. Leon R. Lawton

Seventh Day Baptists are scattered throughout the State of California. At present there are only three active pastored churches, all in Southern California, but there are active churches in the central and northern part of the state. These were known as the Redley-Dinuba and the Hialsburg-Ukiah churches, and have now become inactive because members have moved away and they lack active pastors.

In seeking to keep in touch with the families of Seventh Day Baptists in California, the Pacific Coast Association has authorized visitation trips to be made each year by the pastors. The aim of these trips is to keep contact, to hold services and/or Bible studies, to encourage and counsel with Sabbathkeepers, and to seek thr way of members of the work of the Gospel and the Sabbath made by Seventh Day Baptists on the Pacific Coast.

Pastor Leon R. Lawton of the Los Angeles Church recently made a 10-day trip of over 2,000 miles. Over 100 contacts were to be made, but slightly less than 50% were completed. Forty-two calls were completed. Twenty-nine families, or individuals, were not at home, seven had moved and left no address, eight were contacted by phone, and over 25 were by-passed because of their being too far from the route traveled or because of time.

Many of these Sabbathkeepers are members of our churches in the East. Others have made contact with the association or Seventh Day Baptists and are seeking a church home where they can worship and serve the Lord. Some new contacts were made through those who are active in the work of the Gospel, and are having the privilege of a local church home. Four meetings were held and several personal Bible studies conducted.

This area holds many opportunities for work for Seventh Day Baptists. The Macedonian cry sounded from many lips — the cry for a leader and a missionary to come and lead, inspire, and teach the things of God. Here is a call to adventure — spiritual adventure just as thrilling and challenging as the gospel that was preached by the first missionaries in crossing the western plains. Here are hungry hearts. Would that God might raise up a circuit rider with vision for the work, with the challenging task of overcoming mountainous difficulties, with devotion to inspire all whom he meets! The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few! Can we not find our place as Christ commands: "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest?"

The Gospel on Quemoy Island

Tiny Nationalist-held Quemoy Island, off the Red China mainland, has been front-page news because of recent Communist shelling and the imminent threat of Communist invasion. When the Red Chinese decide to invade Nationalist Formosa, it is very likely that Quemoy will be their first battleground.

In the light of Quemoy Island's present world significance, Christians will rejoice to know that the Pocket Testament League in 1951 distributed 45,000 Gospel portions on the tiny island. The total population of Quemoy is 49,485.

Pocket Testament League Evangelists Andrew Lu and Harry Liu, who headed the campaign, obtained the help of Madam Chiang Kai-shek and a Christian general in the Nationalist Army to secure military transportation and permission to distribute Scripture portions on the Nationalist outpost island. The Scriptures were doubly appreciated by the soldiers because it was the first literature they had been allowed to read since the Communists had attempted to smuggle propaganda from Hong Kong.

Following the three-week campaign, 13,000 signed decision slips and many enrolled in a correspondence course for the English of John. No one knows what the future holds for Quemoy, the seed has been sown and will continue to bear fruit.
Southwestern News Letter

One of our smallest printed publications is the quarterly Southwestern News Letter published by Elder Clifford Beebe at Pomona, Park, Fla., and edited this year by Miss Mary Fisher, Conway, Ark. Though small it is full of life and is cherished by a wide circle of readers who receive it free of charge. The November issue contains news from Nady, Fouke, Gentry, and Little Rock, Ark., as well as from Paint Rock, Ala. It also tells about the association meeting at Edinburg, Tex., which appeared in our November 22 issue.

The auditorium and school room floors have been beautifully refinished. A small house and lot next to the church were purchased for future development of the church property. The Memorial Fund indebtedness incurred at the time the church was built has been reduced almost to the zero mark with $325 reported as having been paid on it during the year.

In addition to a full schedule of services on 52 Sabbaths the pastor reported at the annual meeting in October that the church had been blessed through the teaching mission in April, led by Rev. E. H. Bottoms. - Gleaned from News.

Obituaries

Larkin. - Ruth Anna, the daughter of Asahel and Ruth Potter Larkin, was born in Bradford, R. I., Aug. 17, 1864, and died in Westerly, R. I., Nov. 25, 1954. Surviving her are a nephew, Charles S. Larkin, of Westerly; three nieces, Mrs. Anna Henderson, of Westerly, with whom she made her home; Mrs. Gertrude House, of Wakefield; and Mrs. Ruth James, of Providence. Miss Larkin was a member of the Second Westerly Seventh Day Baptist Church at Niantic (now Bradford).

The funeral service was held at the Schilke Funeral Home, Rev. Harold R. Crandall officiating. Interment was in River Bend Cemetery.

Baxter. - Bertrice Nancy, daughter of Nathan and Clara Baxter, was born in Kasson, Minn., May 18, 1902, and died in Los Angeles, Calif., Oct. 17, 1954. After the death of her mother in 1912 Bertrice made her home with her sister and husband, Effie and Roy Houston in Riverside, Calif. She was a member of the Riverside Seventh Day Baptist Church and was at one time president of the County C. E. Union. Graduated with honors from Milton College, she took advanced work in Los Angeles University and devoted her life to teaching, attaining wide recognition as a secondary school principal in the Los Angeles school system.

Farewell services were conducted by her pastor, Rev. Alton L. Wheeler, and interment was in Olivewood Cemetery, Riverside. On November 21 a memorial service was held at Palms Junior High School at which time a fund was raised to purchase a memorial electric organ for the auditorium.

Survivors in Riverside are her sister, Mrs. Effie Houston and a brother, Richard; a brother, Glenn, of Alameda, Calif.; and two other sisters, Gertrude Felton of Buena Park, and Mrs. Grace Dunlap of Everett, Wash.

Nothing You Need

In order to properly discuss the Sabbath school lessons for the first quarter of 1955 every member of a class which is using the Helping Hand would do well to have a personal copy of Seventh Day Baptist Beliefs (A Manual for Study). This 100-page paper-bound book is available from the American Sabbath Tract Society now at the absurdly low price of 25 cents per copy. Teachers and class members need this supplementary material to go with the lessons on Christian Teaching as developed by our own writers. It would be well for teachers to compare it with what the various interdenominational writers have prepared on the same subjects.

The Sabbath Recorder

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.

DECEMBER 20, 1954