A valentine social held the evening of February 12 was well attended. Begun with a stirring hymn sing led by Mrs. Gleason M. Curtis, and followed by participation in games and refreshments, it was a pleasant all-church occasion. Of the thirty-one pictures of persons and buildings posted in a "Know Your Denomination" contest, only Mrs. Rex Brewer was able to identify them all.

The teacher-training course came to a close on February 20, but a final workshop was held February 27. It was, throughout, most profitable and pleasant.

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Dorcas Society was canceled in favor of attending a union meeting for the World Day of Prayer, February 25, at the newly constructed First Christian Church.

The prayer service on March 4 was cut to one-half hour in order that members of our church could attend the marriage of Ben Herbert and Miss Carol Hickman, of Riverside, in the Eden Lutheran Church. Ben Herbert, son of Mrs. Bess Herbert, popular organist and pianist, now appearing regularly on television, received his earliest musical education from Mrs. Effie Housten and Mrs. Elbert Copeland, both of the Riverside Church.

Miss Carol Blomgren, formerly of Milton, Wis., now residing in Riverside and employed as a nurse at the Community Hospital, is a welcome and frequent attendant at our church. — Mrs. A. O. Ritz, Correspondent.

**Obituaries**


Mr. Eskridge had spent 42 years in the service of the U. S. Army, retiring in 1944 in the rank of First Lieutenant. He served overseas in World War I. He leaves his wife, Etta; his children: Li. Col. Charles Eskridge, Jr., of the U. S. Air Force, East Meadow, N. Y.; Paul B. of Ft. Collins, Colo.; Alex F. of College Dale, Tenn.; and Miss Rue M. of San Antonio, Texas; 4 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren; a sister and 2 brothers in North Carolina; Mrs. Walter Wilson, of Jonesville, S. P. of Jonesville, and A. C., of Greensboro. Brother Eskridge was baptized and joined the Paint Rock Seventh Day Baptist Church seven years ago. Farewell services were from the Turner Funeral Home in Chittamooza, Tenn., and burial was in the National Cemetery on February 7 with the military in charge of graveside services. R. M. S.


He was married to Jennie L. Dunn on July 19, 1911. In 1904 he joined the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Piscataway, at New Market, N. J. Always a loyal member of his church he served as secretary of the board of trustees for 15 years; he was also active as secretary and superintendent of the Sabbath School. After moving to Florida he was active in the Riverland Baptist Church in Fort Lauderdale.

He is survived by his wife and two sons, O. Roger and H. Gillett Dunham, and two grandchildren, all of Fort Lauderdale; and one sister, Mrs. Florence Hull, of Jersey City, N. J.

Funeral services were conducted in Fort Lauderdale on Feb. 28 by Rev. Oscar C. Burdick of the Daytona Beach Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Services were also conducted in the Munday Funeral Home in Dunellen, N. J., by his pastor, Frank R. Keillog, of the Piscataway Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Burial was in the family plot in the Middlesex Hills Cemetery, Plainfield, N. J.

_F. R. K.

*Rogers.* Walter David, son of David D. and Julia Davis Rogers, was born in Daytona Beach, Fla., Jan. 31, 1888, and died in the same city, March 9, 1955.

He married Miss Helen Garrison of Daytona Beach on Aug. 23, 1934. At the time of his death he was in business in the Daytona Beach area. He had attended Alfred Academy, Alfred, N. Y., and Rollins College, Winter Park, Fla. He was a member of the First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Alfred, N. Y.

He is survived by his wife and four sons: Walter David, Jr., Randolph, Peter, and John; two sisters, Dr. Josie and Miss Beulah Rogers, all of Daytona Beach.

Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Oscar Burdick assisted by Rev. Norman Bennetts of Calvary Baptist Church. Burial was in Hillside Cemetery, Ormond Beach, Fla.

**Births**

_Harris.* — A daughter, Holly B., to Mr. and Mrs. Roy Harris of Milton Junction, Wis., on Feb. 14, 1955.

_Grant.* — A son, James Alan, to James and Virginia Churchward Grant of 1234 Los Palos St., Los Angeles 23, Calif., on Feb. 6, 1955.

**The Sabbath Recorder**

April 4, 1955
THE FACT OF THE RESURRECTION

That time of year is here and that great date approaches on which the resurrection of Jesus is celebrated in the Christian Church. It is accounted in both Protestant and Catholic circles as the most significant celebration in what is called Church year. The position of Sabbathkeeping churches in regard to the celebration of Easter is by no means uniform. There are differences of attitude toward it which can be said to be distinctive of some of the denominations which adhere to the seventh-day Sabbath. Within a denomination like ours, where local churches are autonomous and where pastors and people are encouraged to do individual thinking within the framework of revealed truth, there are also wide differences of practice. There are tendencies toward conformity to general Protestant practice which any historian would be sure to note. Most of our churches sing Easter music and listen to resurrection sermons on the Sabbath just preceding what is commonly called Easter Sunday. None of our churches, to the best of our knowledge, ever hold Easter services on Sunday when it is stated as fact. The article goes on to point out the relation between that fact and our own hope of eternal life. It says nothing about the day of the resurrection in relation to a day of worship. In that the statement is in perfect harmony with the Bible because nowhere does the Scripture indicate that the time of the resurrection was to make any change in the time to be set aside for rest and worship.

Quite a number of full-length books have been written to prove that Christ was crucified earlier in the week than Friday. Most of the ones which we have seen make music and the Red was supposed to have been covered on Sunday morning. On the other hand, many pamphlets and magazine articles have appeared to prove from the Bible that the Lord came forth from the tomb at the end of the Sabbath. Discussions of the subject are necessarily somewhat intricate or too intricate to be entered into under the heading of this article. We know that some of our readers are convinced of the correctness of one view and some of the other.

“We believe that Jesus rose from the dead.” On that we are not only agreed; on that we build our hope. That belief stands to all rationalistic views that have been advanced through the years by many authors. Such denials usually arise either that Jesus swooned before death or that his supposed resurrection is a product of the imaginations of those who said they saw Him alive. He arose! Glorious fact—not pious fiction.

The fact of the Resurrection cannot be limited by any annual or weekly celebration of it. It was to the disciples the proof of the truth of Christ’s words: “I have power to take it again.” John 10:18. He is so sure of His ability to raise us from the dead that He tells us how He will do it. The Baptist is happy to say in that connection, “Therefore, we are buried with him by baptism into death.” Baptism is a figure and symbol of the burial of the old man and the rising of the new. How often should we remember and celebrate the fact of the Resurrection? Once a year? once a week? No! as often as we draw breath in this new life of ours, as often as we remember that we are Christians, not pagans.

WE ARE NOT SORRY

Calendar reform has occupied space in several numbers of this journal during the past two months. Now that the issue seems to be closed the time being as far as our nation is concerned, we breathe easier but we are not sorry for the emphasis or that the interest stirred among our readers. That there has been widespread interest and considerable action is evidenced by the volume of mail received.

What we hoped for and worked for has come to pass. The Secretary of State, Mr. Dulles, has submitted in writing to the Secretary General of the United Nations the attitude of his government toward further study of the World Calendar. That attitude is negative, decidedly negative. That decisiveness is the encouraging element in the note which was delivered on March 21. We had feared that if the State Department said “Yes” to this Sabbath destroying, blink - day calendar that it would be a halfhearted, apathetic answer corresponding to the apathy of many church leaders. We had prayed that our government would see the wisdom of assuming the full weight of its leadership in world affairs in opposition to this delusion. We interpret the recent note to indicate that our nation will do just that through its
Draft Extension

Most of us were a little surprised when the lower house of Congress passed with such speed last month another extension of the draft for 4 years. Kenneth Morse, editor of Gospel Messenger, has an editorial on it in the issue of March entitled, "Government by Crisis or by Conscience?"

He says that the House Armed Services Committee planned to put it through in one day with no opportunity for opposition. Finally nine witnesses were allowed ten minutes each to speak against it. It was a time of crisis in the Far East and the bill passed with only four votes against it. Mr. Morse makes the following thought-provoking suggestions:

1. Why is there such a hurry to rush this legislation through, unless its sponsors feel that only when citizens are apprehensive about an explosive situation will they support what they would reject in calmer moments? One cannot escape the impression that some of our "crises" are just a little manufactured, or at least timed, so that they burst on us when renewed legislation for the draft is desired. 

2. Whether or not we take the position of the Church of the Brethren on military service we do need to take into serious consideration the possibility which the editor suggests that there is a strong tendency, in military matters at least, to govern our people by crisis rather than by conscience.

BLESSED EASTER

By Alvin E. Babcock

When I see the cross where He bought me
But what if He did not arise
To build my home in paradise?
None else than He my soul could save;
Twill lose me the grave.

What seemed but loss transformed to gain
Unto the crown of thorns He bore
From them I'm free forevermore.
He did precede to mansions fair,
And now awaits to greet me there.
When I escape this form of clay
Angelic thongs will lead the way,
Singing anthems the entire while
Until I meet my Saviour's smile.

Man has a greater destiny than to be a recovered alcoholic. — National Temperance League.

APRIL 4, 1955

SECRETARY'S COLUMN

Numbers As an Index of Vitality

Numbers for their own sake are meaningless except to the theoretical mathematician. Numbers of church members, however, as an index to the vitality of the church can be of real significance. That church in which the only changes in numbers are caused by death or other removal of aged members is a dying church.

Those who hold a particular church dear for sentimental reasons, or those who regard the church as a beneficent moral influence in the community, must view with sadness the passing of some of our churches. Even more tragic, however, is the loss of salvation to those who might have been saved had the church been a growing instead of a dying one. Let not be said concerning Seventh Day Baptists that "it might have been." Let us rather be positive influences in the lives of those around us who are yet untouched by the truths we hold important.

Some time ago our denominational secretaries meeting together, suggested an objective of a 5 per cent annual growth in membership. One church, while expressing doubt that such a goal was attainable, reported a 4 1/2 per cent increase within three months. To be sure, church accession usually occur spasmodically, but a continual growth can be accomplished. The question is: How?

It seems to us that there are two major sources of growth: young people (our own and our neighbors), and the adult community. Young people can be reached by well-organized, purposeful Sabbath Schools; Local Vacation Bible Schools; Christian Endeavor; summer camps; and pastor's classes. Very frequently parents can be influenced by their interest in the spiritual growth of their own children. Thus, making our neighbors' children feel at home in our services may bring their parents to church as well. In most cities where we have churches, and in rural communities where ours is The Village Church," encouraging children and youth to participate in our Christian educational activities can become a valuable resource of service and growth. In some instances, it has been just that.

As for reaching adults, each of our associations now has a Missionary Evangelistic Committee. The Missionary Society are in position to make valuable suggestions, and frequently to give material assistance in reaching our communities. Some of the plans available include preaching missions, evangelistic services, pastoral exchanges, and even an occasional loan of a pastor to some group unable to afford regular pastoral service.

Valuable as these programs are, none of them will accomplish what a continuous, 52-week-per-year program of outreach will do. And this is not the sole responsibility of our pastors. For our churches to become and continue to be vital forces for good in our communities, laymen and pastors both must work for spiritual growth. Thus, and thus only, can numbers become an index of a rise in the vitality of our denomination.

WES T E R N U N I O N

A telegram received from Executive Secretary A. Burdet Crofoot as this Recorder was being made up informs us of a special message sent to him by the Department of State indicating citizen opposition on religious grounds as a reason for our nation's decisive rejection of further consideration of revising the present calendar. It would "disrupt seven-day sabbatical cycle." The message further informs us that our statement of position was "taken into careful consideration in the preparation of the note to the UN.

LARGER RECORDER

This is the first of the new 16-page issues replacing the alternate 8- and 16-page Recorders. These enlarged issues may well be dedicated to the memory of Dr. Ross Palmer whose bequest helps to make them possible.
THE REALITIES OF LIVING FAITH

By Chaplain David J. Williams

One of a series of radio messages given by this Seventh Day Baptist Air Force chaplain at Mineral Wells, Texas.

"Unless I can taste, smell, feel, hear, or see it I won't believe in Christianity," claim many of the skeptics. The whole concept of the supernatural is still foreign to many in this enlightened age. Demonstration of living in law in how many of our engineers, scientists, and educators today. Social inequities are evaluated against the state, the opinion, many so-called facts corroborate the hypothesis that materialism is realism, while the basic tenets maintained by the Christian Church are thought by some to contain only platitudes and similes for the adolescent and the aged. Where are the honest, fundamental truths lived out in this highly complex superstructure known as 20th-century civilization? What is reliable? Who or what can one trust? Where do we go from here?

The Reality of the Lord Jesus Christ

In our day of high-pressure advertising, propagandizing, and materialistic aggressiveness, is it possible to know, beyond all doubt, whether one truly the answer is forthcoming that, of a certainty, knowing Christ is a possibility, though reliable? Who or what can one trust? Where do we go from here?

Who is knowing Christ lifting one's hand in salvation? Is it possible to know, beyond all doubt, whether one truly knows Christ? The answer is positive.

Is knowing Christ a reality to all those who believe in Jesus Christ? As is true in every case, it is impossible for a man to know, beyond all doubt, whether he truly knows Christ. The answer is forthcoming that, of a certainty, knowing Christ is a possibility, though reliable.

But Christ is a reality to all those who believe in Jesus Christ. With disagreements some­what remote, Christ is a reality to all those who believe in Jesus Christ.

Our transgressions, inequities, and sins separate us from God. Jesus Christ bore our sin in His own body on the tree that we might die and live anew. He is a perfect gentleman of humanity. He is a perfect gentleman of humanity. He is a perfect gentleman of humanity. He is a perfect gentleman of humanity.

Medical science is performing wonders constantly in these dramatic days. Caution is urged upon everyone to learn the danger symptoms for certain diseases and undergo preliminary treatment before a disease reaches its advanced stages. Hypothetically, let us suppose all cancer was curable with the proper medical treatment. Would it not be true then that it would be necessary that one could explain a death caused by cancer? Exactly. Jesus Christ offers to all, whosoever will, the opportunity of knowing Christ. In spite of the widespread distribution of the Gospel of Jesus Christ among the learned, the unlearned, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the educated, the illiterate, the 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THE LIVING WORD

Dr. Luther A. Weigle

One in a series of articles by the noted man.

"Admirè" and "admiration"

The words "admire" and "admiration" were used in the seventeenth century simply to denote wonder or astonishment without any implication of praise or approval. Thomas Fuller, the church historian, writing in 1659, said of Mohammedanism that it was "admirable how that senseless religion should gain so much ground on Christianity" — by which he meant that this fact was amazing. He elsewhere told of Cardinal Pole delivering "a dry sermon and many much admiring the jeunenesse of his discourse" — that is, they were astonished at its emptiness. In Milton's Paradise Lost, Satan was confronted at the gates of Hell by a monster Shape, and "the unadornèd Fiend which this might be admired" — that is, Satan wondered what this might be (Book II, line 677).

In Shakespeare's Hamlet (1, 2, 192) when Horatio tells Hamlet that he has seen the ghost of "the king your father," Hamlet responds with a startled exclamation of surprise, to which Horatio answers: "Season your admiration for awhile. With an attent ear, till I may deliver, Upon the witness of these gentlemen. This marvel to ye."

This evidence is enough to show that when the writer of Revelation 17: 6, as reported in the King James Version, expressed "great admiration" for the woman arrayed in scarlet, "drunken with the blood of the saints and the blood of the martyrs of Jesus," he meant simply to declare his wonder and astonishment at her. The American Standard Version translates the statement: "When I saw her, I wondered with a great wonder." The Revised Standard Version has: "When I saw her I marvelled greatly." 

APRIL 4, 1955

GOD'S PRINTED TREASURE

Rev. Edgar F. Wheeler

Its Amazing Persistence

The Bible could be described as both the most read and the most passionately hated book of all time. From early Christian history, unbelievers have attempted individually and collectively to exterminate it, yet it remains the world's best seller, its most demanded book! It is fantastically treasured by those who have found within its pages life, comfort, guidance, and strength, and equally hated by unbelievers who stand condemned in its light.

Nearly two centuries ago, Tom Paine wrote his Age of Reason, declaring that after its publication, the Bible could not survive; it would be out of date and un procurable within a hundred years. A good many years ago, a Dr. Goforth went around to all the bookshops of a great city and failed to decide "what is Tom Paine's Age of Reason, new or old. Yet, since Tom Paine's boast, hundreds of millions of Bibles, New Testaments, and portions of the Scripture which have been distributed by Bible societies. It continues to answer the troubled questionings of mankind, to bring hope, strength, and guidance.

No Ordinary Book

How are we to explain the persistence of the Bible in the face of seemingly in surmountable odds? Might we not begin by acknowledging that it is not just a book in the ordinary sense of the word, but it is a recorded expression of divine will and purpose, because of God's design that the Bible has stood in the face of vicious and prolonged attacks; indeed these attacks have only served to create a greater awareness of its greatness and an increasing demand for it.

Peter the Apostle, speaking of the Scriptures which in his day did not include the New Testament yet, but which forms a part of our Bible, declared that no prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. (2 Peter 1: 20-21.)

The Greek word, pheromenoi, here interpreted "moved," literally means "borne" or "carried along." He was saying that the holy men of old were borne along by the Holy Spirit, thus claiming the inspiration of the Scriptures. He used a vivid figure of their being carried along by the Holy Spirit as a vessel borne along by the wind. This does not mean that they were unconscious instruments or mere machines. But it emphatically involves a control and a carrying power quite beyond anything that the human will or imagination can control. The men who wrote the Scriptures did not speak more human opinions. They spoke according to a wisdom, knowledge, and inspiration far above their human faculties alone — an ability born of the Holy Spirit.

Paul, speaking to young Timothy of the Scriptures, declared: "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works." (2 Timothy 3: 16-17.)

To those who would discount the special inspiration of our Scriptures by saying that other writings are inspired too, we would reply that this knowledge and insight is not granted by God and therefore inspired of Him. But the other so-called "inspired" writings do not reflect a depth of inspiration and insight which is comparable with the Bible. Their light is indeed no more than an infinitesimal glimmer by comparison with the Bible's light of truth.

The Bible and the Hands of Men

Just how did God inspire and give the messages of the Scriptures? A careful study of the Bible itself reveals that we did not acquire our Scriptures handed down from heaven already written. Only of the Ten Commandments is it claimed that they were written by the finger of God. Neither is the claim made that the Holy Spirit took the hands of those men of old and made them write each word, rather it is stated: the Holy Spirit moved holy men of old to write.

The Holy Spirit, then as now, was God's agent. His influence, working in the hearts of men, in knowing God's will and open to His guidance, giving them insight, conviction, and a disposition to speak the things of God which human understanding unaided could not comprehend.

Our Scriptures, then, came from the hand of men — common men like the rest of the race, but men committed to knowing God and His truths. Among these writers were kings, prophets, scholars, poets, soldiers, physicians, tax gatherers, cattle drivers, shepherds, tent makers, fishermen, all men of genius and insight. The mind of God is through their writings expressed in human experience, bringing clearly to men the divine answer to human cry.

We may then conclude the glorious truth that the Bible is the co-operative work of God and man. God inspired and enlightened men, who were open to illumination, and through them He spoke His great truths for all ages to come. Here is a joyous message to God-seeking men of our day, on the kinship of men with God, the dignity and worth of men, the nearness of God and His responsiveness to those who are willing to place themselves in His will!

The Story of Manuscripts and Versions

The original manuscripts of the sixty-six books of the Bible were probably written over the long period of 1600 years, the Old Testament in Hebrew and the New Testament in Greek. Not a single one of these original manuscripts is known to be in existence today. But before they were lost or destroyed, copies and translations of them had been made. From these copies and translations from the Hebrew, Syriac, Greek, Latin, and Anglo-Saxon we derive our English Bible of today. The Bible has been subject to a series of revisions and translations from the early centuries of the Christian Era down to today.

In A.D. 382, St. Jerome finished his translation of the New Testament in the Latin Version (Vulgate) and began the translation of the Old Testament, using the oldest manuscripts available. For nearly 1000 years the Vulgate was the parent of every later version of the Scriptures in Western Europe.

In 1584, John Wycliffe with his assistants finished his Scripture revision and translation into English, the first in the
English language. He was tried for heresy and his version denised. But in manuscript form it reached the people and was loyally read.

William Tyndale brought out the first printed English New Testament early in the fifteenth century. He was opposed and persecuted by the bishops in England for his efforts, so he printed his edition in Europe and smuggled copies into England. He was strangled and burned at the stake, but this did not suppress his Open Bible Crusade.

In 1611, the familiar King James Version was published. In the middle of the nineteenth century a new translation was needed because so many words used in 1611 no longer had the same meaning in contemporary usage. Thus came about the American Standard Version, completed in 1901.

Now, the Revised Standard Version Revisions and translations are necessary to bring the Bible to people in contemporary language and expression, and to carry it to foreign lands where other languages are spoken.

The remarkable fact is that with all the revisions in transmitting the Scriptures to us, all of the fundamental, basic teachings have been preserved intact, another instance of divine direction and care.

We may accept the new version in confidence. The (probably imaginary) story is told of an incident in which later translations of the Bible were under discussion, and someone spoke up saying, "The King James Version was good enough for Peter and Paul, and it is good enough for me." The truth of Scripture is not all wrapped up in a particular translation. God will not allow Bible truth to be dimmed by permitting outdated expression and language to hold a monopoly. He continues to move holy men by His Spirit to translate the Bible into the language of the age and land.

(Tо be continued)

**SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON**

**April 16, 1955**

Rehoboam, King of Judah Scripture Lesson: 2 Chronicles 10: 6-17.

**SPRING MEETING OF TRACT BOARD**

Rev. Leon M. Malby, Corresponding Secretary

We could wish that a much larger number of members of the American Sabbath Tract Society could be present at each meeting of the Board of Trustees. It should be remembered that all delegates at the previous General Conference and all those who have contributed $1.00 or more to the work of the society are members for that given year.

The elected and three of the quarterly meetings in the board room at the Seventh Day Baptist Building in Plainfield, N. J. For several years it has been the practice to hold the spring meeting at Shiloh, N. J. (about one hundred miles south), on the invitation of the members in that area. An unusually representative group assembled at Shiloh for the meeting on March 20. One member came from Ashaway, R. I., one from Salem, W. Va., besides about twelve members from the Plainfield area. Visitors from the local area and from Philadelphia, Ashaway, and Alfred, made a total attendance of nearly thirty.

It was felt that this was a significant meeting because of the numerous recommendations of the various committees. This was the time the interim budget for the coming year was brought up. The Budget Committee had met the previous week and had prepared a tentative budget, the details of which were available at the General Conference and to any member of the society who requests the committee's minutes of the meeting for the coming year. The budget proposal has been accepted.

The Advisory Committee, which does not usually give a detailed report presented at this meeting a picture of its monthly meetings and the recommendations which this time formed a part of its report. One of these in regard to the denominational building is reported elsewhere. The remainder of the report seems to be of sufficient interest to include here. We quote:

"Regular monthly meetings with the secretary-editor have been maintained without interruption since October, 1954. This meeting consists of discussion of matters presented by Mr. Malby followed by discussion of matters referred by the secretary-editor to the board, of items suggested by General Conference and tract society committees, and of suggestions presented by individual members of the committee. Results of the committee's action are generally reported by other committees to whom matters have been referred. This year there are actions or recommendations reported directly by the committee to this board.

"In examining the suggestion of the 1954 General Conference concerning the publication of lists of material which the board has available for loan, sale, or gift, the committee recommends:

1. That an additional page or two be added to this board's report to the society each year listing such materials as may be available for loan, sale, or gift. The fact that this report also appears in the statement to Conference and is included in the Seventh Day Baptist Year Book will add to its usefulness.

2. That the board express a willingness to move toward such changes in the Constitution of the American Sabbath Tract Society as would permit the holding of its annual meetings at the time and place of the meeting of the General Conference should the Conference deem such procedure desirable.

A Short Laugh

"Smile, chum! Remember, everyone loves a cheerful giver." Those are the words of the departing burglar. Throwing by the bed of his rich victim in a recent humorous cartoon. Anything for a laugh! But let us remember that burglars do not ordinarily quote Scripture or guide their lives by it. The text referred to (2 Cor. 9: 7) reads in full: "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, that, though he give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. Every man that giveth,同一样的圣事，同一样的圣事。" The text refers to (2 Cor. 9: 7) reads in full: "Every man according with what is set in a two-chapter discussion of Christian benevolence. Earlier in the passage are the words, "For we know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich." 2 Cor. 8: 9. That, brethren, is no laughing matter.

The legalist and moralist too frequently make the mistake of judging himself by his professorial ideals, and other people by their practices. — Reinhold Niebuhr.
THE SABBATH RECORDER

APRIL 4, 1955

Being very God as well as man, He can be, and is the Mediator between God and men (1 Timothy 2: 5).

When the Saviour was here, there were those who literally slapped Him becouse they did not like the way He called things by their proper names. See Matthew 26: 67; 27: 50; John 19: 3. Had it not been that He was here in grace, they would have been banished from His presence forever.

He cannot be slapped physically—no, but many persons are slapping this Umpire verbally, by all their ungodly talk against Him.

The Lord does not hold them guiltless, but there is forgiveness with Him that He may be worshiped.

It is not reported that a baseball umpire ever died for a player who sinned against him; but that is exactly what the heavenly Umpire has done. "Christ died for our sins." And the Lord has said, "Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men and blasphemies wherewithsoever they shall blaspheme" (Mark 3: 28).

This offer must be acted upon now, for to die in one's sins will mean to be banished from His presence forever.

Now—

If you have tasted of the grace of Jesus, you will not tip the wine of Sodom. — F. B. Meyer.

PLAY SLAPS UMPIRE

Tom M. Olson

A batter and base runner of the Hollywood Baseball Club was suspended for the remainder of the 1954 season for striking an umpire.

He lost his temper when Umpire Chris Valenti called him out on strikes in the eighth inning of an important game against San Diego.

After bumping the umpire with his chest, he was ordered off the field. Then he struck the umpire sharply with his left hand.

Clarence Rowland, president of the Pacific Coast League, wired the player saying:

"Umpires are the official representatives of not only the league but the National Association as well, and must be given wholehearted support at all times.

"Baseball cannot and will not tolerate assaults on any umpires. Therefore, for your uncalled-for assault upon Umpire Valenti, slapping him in the face after being ejected from the game, and for bumping and using foul language, you will stand suspended for the balance of the entire 1954 scheduled season."

The player's entire future is in the balance for he committed baseball's unpardonable sin.

In the Moffatt Translation, Job's longing for a Daysman between God and himself is rendered thus: "Oh for some umpire over both of us, over our case!" (Job 9: 33.) That Umpire came in the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ.

HE'S THINKING IT OVER

A regional convention of the National Association of Evangelicals held in Los Angeles recently devoted its meeting to a panel discussion of "Christianity and the Political Drift." The moderator was Dr. Carl F. H. Henry, theologian, and the participants were prominent Christian political leaders.

In closing the panel, the officiholders felt somewhat into disagreement on the question of the role of the church in politics. The question put to them by the moderator was: "If you as a Christian politician stand where I as a Christian minister stand, would you tell the church members how to vote? Give definite instruction in the sphere of political issues?" All agreed that the primary task of the church is the proclamation of the Gospel, and that if it is preoccupied with political affairs, its misjudgment in that area soon encourages people to suspect it of misjudgment in spiritual matters also.

But some of the participants held that some political affairs, e.g., legalized gambling or legalized prostitution, are morally so clear-cut that the church should act on them at once.

"It is not reported that a baseball umpire ever died for a player who sinned against him; but that is exactly what the heavenly Umpire has done. "Christ died for our sins." And the Lord has said, "Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men and blasphemies wherewithsoever they shall blaspheme" (Mark 3: 28).

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PRAYER

By T. R. Sutton

Texarkana, Ark.

O Lord, who gave the way of love and peace,
We now confess our selfish way.
In hateful strife our days are spent, in ease and profit,
With self, and seek to live in Thee.

With self, and seek to live in Thee.

Lest we be false to Thee, and so far from Thee,
Tell us by what we shall know Thee,

O Lord, enlarge our minds in truth and hope,
That we may grow and Christ-like be,

In loving thought and work with which we clothe our lives,
In faith and deed do now install

The Lord does not hold them guiltless,
But many persons are slapping this Umpire verbally, by all their ungodly talk against Him.

The Lord does not hold them guiltless, but there is forgiveness with Him that He may be worshiped.

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that we face the facts and so live that the judgment will not find us in a place of weeping and gnashing of teeth." Matthew 24: 51.

We clipped a portion of a business meeting notice from a church bulletin as following: "Attendance at business meetings in the past has been rather spotty, leaving the matters of church business to be decided upon by a comparative few." Does that fit yours? Does that shoe pinch your foot? Can you imagine that such was the situation in the New Testament Church, which we profess to follow? Was there a poor attendance at Jerusalem when they elected a successor to Judas or chose the first deacons? Do you think only a handful were present in the new churches of Galatia when they ordained elders in every church? Do you think?

ITEMS OF INTEREST

The brewers are now spending as much as $12,000,000 a year upon home magazines which publish letters. The increase in the sale and consumption of their products.

The National Temperance and Prohibition Congress in Washington, D. C., organized over 120,000 a year over the foreign field. The first nation-wide conference of dentists, medical and dental students, and others in the medical profession to gain the mutual strength, encouragement, and blessings to be obtained in meeting with one another," and "to present a positive witness of God, our Father, and our Saviour Jesus Christ to the medical profession.

CMS chapters now meet in 55 medical schools. The total membership of these groups and graduate chapters composed of practicing physicians and dentists now number over 1,200. Of this number, more than one sixth are serving as missionaries on the foreign field.

Mr. Alfred A. Kunz, international director of the Pocket Testament League, and Mr. Glenn Wagner, foreign secretary, personally directed the first evangelistic rallies in the great PTL. Campaign of Scripture distribution and evangelization in Africa. Reporting from Africa, Mr. Kunz said:

"The sin and need in Africa is greater than we ever dreamed of back in the States! If American Christians could see for one day the conditions in Africa they would send up a mighty prayer of worship in behalf of the millions here who live in sin and darkness."

A "literacy team," headed by the noted missionary, Dr. Frank C. Laubach, is now in Pakistan working with missionary and governmental leaders in developing methods and preparing texts for teaching people of that nation to read and write. After a period in Pakistan, the team will do similar pioneering work in southern Sudan, then in New Guinea of the Netherlands, and then in Korea. The team includes Dr. and Mrs. Lewis' Spiritual Sabbathyism and his own experience as a Sabbath convert. He is a member of the editorial staff of the help in the Richchurch and Nile Seventh Day Baptist Churches before entering upon his preparation for teaching.

The course in denominational history and polity will be offered by Dean Rogers and will include a survey of the preaching emphases regarding the doctrine of Christ as they are found in several periods of Sabbatarian thought. Mr. Rogers is pastor of the Second Alfred Church and served at Waterford, Conn., and New York City previously. He was formerly a member of the Missionary and Tract Board and president of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education, which office he resigned when he became acting dean of the School of Theology. He has recently been named president of the Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society.

Announcement of these courses has been sent to ministers and theological students known to be interested. Any minister or layman who is interested in the culture of the course is invited to apply-on. No tuition is being charged. Living quarters for men with families will be arranged through the school office so far as possible on request. It is expected that accommodations for single men will be available in the new school building. The General Conference voted two years ago to require at least six hours of denominational studies for full ministerial accreditation, and the School of Theology offers the courses to meet this requirement. A tuition course on Contemporary Religious Thought is also to be offered by Professor Nida.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

FIRST HOPKINTON, R. I. — A baptismal service was held on Sabbath evening, March 11, for two (adults) candidates. They were named president of the "Had-a-Call" campaign. The program has the following objectives: To promote friendliness among our members who have drifted away, and to change the cause of Christ and the way of salvation to their neighbors.

The Sabbath school has started a fund to purchase a sound motion picture projector with a contribution of $25. They also gave $25 to the State WCTU toward its Total Abstinence Road Sign project.

Recently the Ladies Aid Society held a successful food sale at Grant's store in Westerly. This added fifty dollars to the treasury.

All departments in the church are feeling the loss of the Kenyon family: Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kenyon and children, Barbara, Robert, Jr., and Bruce, who are in their new home in Madison, Wis. — Ruth C. Sitzau, Correspondent.

SCHENECTADY, N. Y. — Our many prayers have been answered and Pastor Barber is settled and ready for action. On March 12 we had a reception for the Barbers and a meeting afterward to elect a committee of the elders and chairman of various committees to draft the constitution and bylaws of this church. Our covenant is also in the making.
Our regular budget contains allowances for some funds for these improvements and the work depends upon the regular giving of the membership. It is hoped that the Lord's Acre projects will help toward these needed improvements. It may take a long time, step by step, for these needed features, but they must come. A church cannot carry on an adequate program without a functional kitchen and a modern rest room. Let's not leave our responsibility up to the next generation; let's do it within the next couple of years. — The Church Mouse.

MILTON JUNCTION, WIS. — The sum of five hundred dollars has been voted to the Alfred School of Theology from our Lord's Acre fund. A check for $250 has already been sent and the rest will go later in the year. This gives us a share in the expanding work of the school.

The pastor returned to Garrett Biblical Institute in Chicago, on March 28 for the spring quarter. (He was not in school during the winter months.)

A set of six historical Bible maps on a tripod has been purchased by the Service Milton Junction Sabbath School. They have just arrived and will be in use soon.

A lovely candelabra set has been given to the Milton Junction Church by Mrs. Hartman in memory of her mother. — The Church Mouse.

Mary loved her Lord! But on that fateful day
He had been crucified! They took His form away
To Joseph's rock hewn tomb, and near that tomb she stayed
To see the body wrapped and how the form was laid.

The Sabbath passed and then, real early in the morn
With others Mary came, her heart with anguish torn!
She sorely wept because His body was not there;
To her the empty tomb spelled grief she could not bear!

O Mary! Could you know? Could you have understood
The cause you thought for grief was working for your good!
That empty tomb meant triumph, so in perplexity,
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