Fall Associations,
Additional Information
The Central Association of New York Seventh Day Baptist Churches will hold
its fall meeting with the Adams Center Church on October 13. The theme will be "Our Growing Place in Our World Mission." The morning service will be
begin at 11 a.m. followed by a Fellowship dinner. Several young people will give reports at 2 p.m. on different phases of camping and there will be a youth meeting
and social hour in the evening for those of junior high through early college age.
Maurice McCrae, moderator of the Western (N. Y.) Association, announces that the semianual meeting will be held at Hebron, Pa., Sabbath day, October 13. The youth meeting under the leadership of J. Paul Green, will be held Sabbath eve, at Richburg.
The theme for the Northern Association, meeting at White Cloud, Mich., October 12-14, is "Pressing Toward the Mark." This theme is subdivided for Sabbath eve, morning, and afternoon as follows: "For the Individual and Family"; "For the Local Church"; and "In Our World Mission." Conference President Charles F. Harris speaks the evening after the Sabbath.
The North Central Association will meet with the Albion, Wis., Church from Friday to Sunday, October 19-21.
The annual meeting of the New England Seventh Day Baptist Churches, which has not previously been mentioned among the fall meetings, is scheduled to be held with the First Hopkinton Church at Ashaway, R. I., on October 20, with morning and afternoon services and a dinner in the parish house. Rev. Neal D. Mills, the pastor of the church, will speak in the morning. In the afternoon a panel of laymen will speak on the second part of our Conference theme, "Abounding in every good work." They will discuss the Christian's responsibility at the polls, how to combat the liquor traffic, how to promote evangelistic witnessing, a program of home evangelism for New England, and supporting our world mission as a whole.
The speakers at the New Jersey Yearly Meeting to be held in Plainfield, October 12 and 13, are expected to be Rev. Paul Maxson, Rev. Paul Osborn, Rev. Robert Lippincott, and Harry E. Moore, in that order. The young people are asked to take charge of the program the second evening which will close with a religious motion picture.
The theme for the Pacific Coast Association (October 19-21) is "Feed My Sheep." The meeting will be held in the Los Angeles Church at 4976 North Figueroa Street.

OUR SERVICEMEN
Elmo J. Campbell, MEFA, 489-42-31
USN Amphoton, AK-13, Div. X
C/o Fleet Post Office
New York, N. Y.

Marriages
Blair-Bond — Malcolm F. Blair, U. S. Navy, and Lila Rose Bond, both of Williamsburg, Kan., were united in marriage Aug. 28, 1956, in the Williamsburg Methodist Church. They will be at home in Beeville, Texas.

Obituaries
Parsons — Grace Lewis, daughter of Rev. A. H. Lewis, was born in Alfred, N. Y., Feb. 1, 1870 and died August 4, 1956, in Monrovia, Calif. Mrs. Parsons was married by her father and joined the church in Plainfield, N. J. She was married to James Henry Parsons who passed away in 1929. She was a member of the Chicago Seventh Day Baptist Church, later moving to Los Angeles where she was a member at the time of her death. Surviving are her daughter, Mrs. Louise F. Whiting, four grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Myron Soper and interment was in Rose Hill Memorial Park, Whittier, Calif. V. M. Crandall. — V. Ethelyn Coon, was born in Hopkinton, R. I., Oct. 20, 1866, and died in Providence, R. I., Sept. 3, 1956. Her husband, William H. Crandall, died in 1910. For the past forty years her home had been in Ashaway, R. I. A daughter, Mrs. Ethelyn Coon, and a daughter, Miss Verice A. Crandall, have remained at home with their mother and cared for her the past several years. Other survivors are: a daughter, Mrs. Leora E. Hoxie of Ashaway, R. I., and LaVoy W. of Los Angeles; three sons: Ellsworth H. of Bradford and Alvon O. and Lila Rose Bond, both of Williamsburg, Kan., were united in marriage Aug. 28, 1956, in the Williamsburg Methodist Church. They will be at home in Beeville, Texas.

Our Servicemen
Doris Fetherston, new executive secretary of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference. Mrs. R. T. Fetherston, who holds a degree from Milton College and has been continuously active in church and denominational work for many years, brings to this position her buoyant enthusiasm and her special talent. Her first article, a call to prayer, appeared in last week's issue. Other brief articles about "Our World Mission" will appear regularly.

The Sabbath Recorder
October 15, 1956
Separatism and the True Church

There is Bible for separatism, and there is certainly Scripture for seeking membership in the true church. The question of whether to withdraw from a given denomination and be separate is not quite as simple as quoting "Wherefore come out from among them and be ye separate, saith the Lord . . ." (2 Cor. 6: 17). Neither is it easy (judging by the difference of opinion in the church) to find "the one true church," amid the claims and counterclaims along that line of the smaller denominations.

A letter came to our desk the other day from a loyal reader who said she had been urged by a member of another denomination to leave her present denominational connection on doctrinal grounds. Part of her reply to her friend started a train of thought which might have wide application. Whether or not 2 Corinthians 6: 17 had been appealed to is not stated, but we assume that it had, since it so often is. Our correspondent replied that when Judas betrayed his Lord and had left the faith rather than to stay with the church when the church was manifestly not perfect. The church is never perfect, but Christ is, and our allegiance to Him makes us seek a fellowship with Him even among a body of believers where some are perhaps a little more imperfect in belief or practice than we ourselves are.

What did the eleven (or the whole body of believers) do under the leadership of the Holy Spirit to joist or to form a church? They attempted to replace the disciple who had left the faith rather than to abandon the organization because of his defection. It may be that many of us consider separation from a church which clearly, in its statement of a few members. It may be a matter of speculation as to what the group would have voted to do in the matter of replacing Judas if he had not decided to kill himself. He might of course, have truly repented later and thus been entitled to come back into the fellowship which he had deserted. We cannot know — a band of people who would be perfectly free from all willful sinning. The idea is not so prevalent now as formerly. We have less common cause with such people or churches reveals many inconsistencies, to say the least.

Beware of the one who promises you the enjoyment of fellowship in the true church. If it is a very young church the spots and wrinkles may not immediately appear on the surface but they are bound to show up with a little age. We can truly say to such people, "If you can see no spots on your hand, go no further for another eye (or 1 examination)."

Let us dedicate ourselves to the work of the church which to us seems to be the nearest to apostolic faith and practice, of a church which clearly, in its statement of belief, puts Scripture above custom, tradition. The voice of the Holy Spirit leads us to a church where godliness is faithfully preached to the members, and the righteousness of Christ proclaimed to the heathen. But the true church, the perfect church awaits an event of history which is yet future — the return of Christ in power and great glory.

Our Broader Circle of Prayer

How wide can our circle of prayer be drawn and still be effective? That is a hard question. We know that we face the danger of tribulation or provincialism if we yield to the temptation to shorten the radius. We are aware that many prayers seldom get outside the family circle; some are consistently ego-centric. Manifestly we can pray most effectively for the needs that are best known to us, but that should not encourage any true Christian to remain ignorant of the larger needs.

Bound in with our scope of praying is our scope of giving. This at least applies to those who have sufficient income so that they can diversify their giving. Every pastor is happy to have some prayer warriors who have practically no money at their disposal who can always be counted on to pray earnestly for the spread of the Gospel in faraway places. They will also be the strongest pray-ers for local evangelism. We must recognize that there is a difference between requests for money, although the two are sometimes subtly connected. But to say that a church which clearly, in its statement of belief, puts Scripture above custom, tradition. The voice of the Holy Spirit leads us to a church where godliness is faithfully preached to the members, and the righteousness of Christ proclaimed to the heathen. But the true church, the perfect church awaits an event of history which is yet future — the return of Christ in power and great glory.

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our local church so that we should not spend much time praying for the denomination, for the faraway home mission fields, or the farther away mission fields. Such an attitude is not as wise as it might seem to be to those who are concerned with budgets.

Prayer is a thing of the mind and the heart. In school we learn that the mind when properly exercised is capable of tremendous powers of reaching ability. It wears out by disuse, not by use. A healthy mind is one which is constantly reaching out to wider horizons. The Apostle Paul said that he had learned in whatsoever state (of physical comfort) he was, therewith to be content. He never lost sight of his spiritual state. His zeal for the Gospel led him to speak of seeing Rome and going to Spain. Bound by Roman chains at a later date, his mind, his heart, and his prayers ranged over the seas and traversed the mountainous provinces. Anything less for him would have been death — a death far worse than that which awaited him at the end of his imprisonment. We, too, will die if we do not pray in an ever-widening circle.

We must reserve time and space in our prayer life for our own mission stations and for our denomination. Shame falls upon us if we do not pray also for some of the interdenominational efforts. None of us can pose as being able to teach others how to pray. "That teaching must come from the Lord even as the disciples partly recognized when they said, "Lord, teach us to pray." The world seems so much wider than in New Testament times. We are staggered by the needs which can be known to us if we look and listen. Yet our prayers can take in more. We know it because other people's prayers do.

When it comes to suggesting things to pray for outside our regular denomina- tion channels, it is hard to know where to begin or end. It must be largely a matter of personal information and vital interest. Certainly we would pray for the work of the great evangelists like Dr. Billy Graham, whose ministry bears a close resemblance to that of Paul, of whom it was said that he was turning the world upside down with his preaching.

**MEMORY TEXT**

For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God. Hebrews 7: 19.

**Another great work for which many are praying is the Far East Broadcasting Company, American headquarters in Whittier, Calif. It reaches half the world in 36 languages — the most far-reaching Gospel radio voice ever heard. Young people in all institutions of higher education need our prayers. In that field there is nothing quite like the Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, a group of a nation-wide emphasis by Religion in American Life. Presidents Osborn, Rogers, and Bond continued this worthy plan.

In our praying let us not forget the world-wide tract ministries, the American Bible Society, the Gideons, the Pocket Testament League, and many other distribution agencies. "Lord, teach us to pray."

**Music or Noise**

The editor of Gospel Messenger takes "Music or Noise" as a springboard for some interesting comments on spiritual things. One modern composer, not quite bold enough to label his efforts as music, has spoken of certain portions as being "organized noise."

The question raised by this is whether what sometimes passes for practical church music is not (through lack of practice) little more than organized noise.

We quote a paragraph:

The same requirement holds for Christian experience, and may help us through the motions of singing the Lord's song but the result is more noise than music. What does it avail us to know all the catch phrases of religion, to quote the best Bible passages, to follow the tempo of a church service, even under the direction of a skilled leader, to have direct face-to-face experience with the Master himself? The music comes with practicing the presence of God, with attuning your soul to his leading, with yielding your instruments to his using."

**OCTOBER 15, 1956**

**President's Column**

"Assemble Yourselves Together"

"Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful; and let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near" (Heb. 10: 23-25 RSV).

Rev. Elmo Randolph, Conference president in 1953, proposed as a project among our churches that we have a special attendance campaign during the month of November. The emphasis was on Christian emphasis by Religion in American Life. Presidents Osborn, Rogers, and Bond continued this worthy plan.

We request that the pastor, or some delegated person, send the weekly attendance figures of the prayer meeting, Sabbath morning service, and the Sabbath School to the editor of the Sabbath Recorder. He will tabulate the figures and will publish any constructive results. Let us pray that the church will be blessed in a spiritual as well as a physical growth.

We respect the command "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy" and we rejoice in the promise: "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Let us be in our places in the appointments of the church, and let us invite others with us. Some of our people drive at least one hundred miles to enjoy the blessing of our church services; others drive many miles to take someone with them.

May I ask each of you to refer to the issue of Christian Endeavor and read the article "Evangelism on the Home Field" by Rev. Loyal F. Hurley. May our pastors "give themselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the Word," and may our churches become truly evangelistic. May our laymen "get a passion to love and serve Christ."

The success of this church attendance project depends on every Seventh Day Baptist. May we find our place in Our World Mission and abound to every good work for our Lord.

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**Salem C. E. Planning Meeting Held**

An important Christian Endeavor Youth Fellowship meeting was held on September 30, in the Seventh Day Baptist Church at Salem, W. Va.

The young people from the Seventh Day Baptist Church of the Seventh Day Baptist Church were in charge of the program. After the devotions Richard Hamilton, president of the CEYF, conducted the election of officers.

Those chosen to serve during the next year are: Esther Hansen, president; John Howard, vice-president; Elfie Fluharty, secretary; Mike Greer, treasurer; Richard Brannon, publicity chairman; Venita Zinn, junior high-school work; Wilma (Billie) Zinn, children's work; John Harris, assistant chairman; Betty Grimm, mission work; Nancy Hedge, recreation chairman.

The new officers were installed by candle light. Richard Horwood lit the candle of the new president, Esther Hansen, and spoke of the challenge ahead. As Esther lit the candles of the new officers, Richard outlined what was expected of them as they took over their new offices. Rev. Rex Burdick of the Seventh Day Baptist Church added a few words of guidance to help these young people as they take up their new responsibilities.

Following the installation service John Howard led the group in a social hour. The YTC served the refreshments, which were furnished by the CEYF. An important coming event of the CEYF is their evangelistic services to be held from October 14 to 19 in the Salem Baptist Church. Rev. Edward Hooser from Dilltown, Pa., will be the speaker.

Salem Herald.

Life is a story in volumes three, The Past, The Present, The Yet-To-Be.

The first is finished and laid away, The second we're reading day by day, The third and last of volume three Is locked from sight; God keeps the key! — Now.
The Sabbath Recorder

Story of Nyasaland Conference Meetings

By Beth Severe

The annual Conference of Seventh Day Baptists of Nyasaland, B.C.A., was opened Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m., July 12, 1956. Miss Joan Clement led the devotions of the evening centered around the Conference theme, "Walk in the Spirit," taken from Galatians 5:16.

Our mission pastor, Lookson Nothale, extended the welcome. The evening message was brought by Pastor Pearson on the theme of Conference. The second part of the verse was shown to be our reward— if we as Christians would walk in the Spirit, we would be delivered from the lusts of the flesh.

Friday's services began with prayer at 7:00 a.m. The midmorning service opened with devotions. Following the devotions, reports were brought before the Conference. They were: "Past and Future Work of Makapwa Mission," brought by the Mission Kapitoa (foreman), Mr. Nangazi, and "Makapwa mission," by Miss Severe. Items of business were taken up at this time. After a short recess our morning message was delivered by Pastor Lookson Nothale based upon Ephesians 1:3-23.

Friday afternoon we enjoyed the program presented by the students of Makapwa School. Each class, starting with Sunday A up through Standard V presented its part. The outstanding items were the songs of Standards IV and V, and a skit based on the slave trade in Africa. A group appeared bound by ropes. They were examined, bargained for, and at the end freed. David Livingstone came upon the scene.

The Sabbath was opened Friday evening as the sun set, Pastor Risdon Mwango bringing a good message. Friday night the devotions were given by guest speakers, Pastor and Mrs. Udd of the Assemblies of God Mission. The message was delivered by Pastor Duncan Bwanali, native guest pastor from the Zambezi Mission.

Sabbath day was clear and beautiful, for which we were thankful after a few drops of rain Thursday evening and a cloudy Friday. Pastor Udd of Limbe was in charge of the morning service. It was a great joy to hear some of our well-loved choruses translated into the native tongue and brought to us by the Udds, with the accompaniment of Mrs. Udd's accordion.

One of the high lights of Conference took place Sabbath afternoon. Thirteen candidates were baptized, among them five of our boarding girls and two of our schoolboys. The Sabbath closed with an evening service. Pastor Makanhamba brought a stirring evangelistic message cleverly illustrated. Following the evening message, colored slides were shown.

Sunday morning brought us our morning prayer group, financial report, and an 11 o'clock service. Pastor Addison Makhukwa gave the morning message showing us how foolish it is to come to Christ and to insist on carrying our burden (load). He gave an illustration of a man walking with his load along the road. Upon the approach of a lorry he fell down. The driver stopping, offered him a ride. He accepted yet insisted on leaving his heavy load upon his head all the way.

Sunday afternoon again was taken up with business. The evening held in store a blessing beyond our expectation. A short testimonial service was led by Dr. Melvin N. Nida, Miss Roberta Armstrong and Mrs. M. Peake.


Student Body, Faculty, and Administrative Staff of the Alfred University School of Theology 1956

Twenty-three men are enrolled at the Alfred University School of Theology for the current semester. Twelve of this number are in the regular course leading to the bachelor of divinity degree, and the remainder are special students who attend classes one or two days a week.

The Seventh Day Baptists who are enrolled include Donald E. Richards, Beres, W. Va., who is engaged in thesis research; Rev. Delmer E. Van Horn, Little Geneseo, N. Y.; Doyle K. Zwiebel, Richburg, N. Y.; J. Paul Green and S. Kenneth Davis of Alfred, and Eugene Fatao of Almond, N. Y. Other denominations represented in the student body include Methodist, Wesleyan, and Free Methodist.

Dr. Melvin G. Nida, who received his doctor's degree from the Iliff School of Theology, Denver, Colo., on August 24, continues his work as librarian of the seminary in addition to his position as Assistant Professor of New Testament and Christian Ethics. Dr. Alfred J. Gross, who was appointed to the faculty in June, is carrying a full teaching load. Special instructors in the fall semester will include Rev. Arthur C. Guild, Almond, N. Y., in Old Testament; Rev. Robert Cleveland Holland, Bath, N. Y., in Church Administration; and Mrs. Madge Sutton, Alfred Station, who will offer an evening course for students' wives.

Miss R. Marion Carpenter continues as office secretary and assistant librarian and Miss Roberta Armstrong and Mrs. M. Elwood Kenyon are part-time office helpers.

Courses being offered include History of the Christian Church, New Testament Survey and Historical Geography of the Bible, taught by Doctor Nida; History of Christian Doctrine, History of Methodism, Seminar in Theism and Fundamentalism of Christian Doctrine, taught by Doctor Gross; Christian Worship, Sermon Preparation and Seminar in Field Work, taught by Dean Rogers; Old Testament Personalities, taught by Mr. Guild, and the Seminary Orientation taught by the faculty as a whole.
The Church's Challenge to Youth

By J. Paul Green, Jr.

[Condensation of a sermon given in the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church, July 21, 1956]

The one field where Christian leadership is most needed, and perhaps most wanting, is within the church itself. The Christian Church the world over is suffering from lack of leadership. Somehow the Church has not challenged youth as it did in the past, but now the call of the hour is for them to enter the leadership of the church.

As Seventh Day Baptists we recognize the part of God's will that man should keep the Sabbath. We are not Seventh Day Baptists for fellowship, convenience, habit, because our parents were or our friends are — at least, I hope we are not. If you are a young person, you may be a Seventh Day Baptist for one of the above reasons, but as you grow older, you'll have to have a better reason, the real reason: because you want to do the complete will of God. And God's will includes the Sabbath.

To Leadership in Service

The church's challenge to youth is for complete commitment to Christ through lives of service. Christ calls us not only to believe and to live, but also to serve. Our homes and families call us to service. Our communities need us as solid citizens. Our local churches call us to service — serving with our time, with our talents, with our money. We are called to serve through our vocations. Be a light for Christ in any worthwhile vocation: farming, teaching, in the factory, in the office. There is room for Christian workers in every field.

The church's greatest challenge to youth is to leadership. If this world is to ever become Christian, it must have Christian leaders. Wherever the light of their Christianity may shine before men, Christian leaders are needed in business, teaching, medicine, science, politics, and so on down the line. Youth must train for these jobs. The best place to train Christian leaders is in Christian colleges, and the best place to train Seventh Day Baptist Christian leaders is in Seventh Day Baptist-related colleges. The Church of Jesus Christ challenges you, oh youth, to train yourselves to be Christian leaders — to get the best education in the best schools.

To Fulfill the Will of God

The church calls youth to give their lives to complete fulfillment of the will of God. Of course, we cannot ever completely fulfill the will of God, but as Christians we must be committed to doing our best. We must seek to do God's will as it is expressed in the life and teachings of Jesus.

The Christian Church today is growing as never before. But this is an easy love, a popular love. In many places, the Gospel has been watered down to the point of being the minister of a church, a man who preaches and teaches in Christian education courses in colleges, or in theological schools. He can be a missionary. We have missionaries in Nyasaland and Jamaica. Seventh Day Baptists have been asked to send missionaries to New Zealand, Holland, and British Guiana [and other foreign countries] — and we just don't have anyone to send. Home missions is another field — in poor areas of the United States, ministering to the needs of our own fellowships. We have several fellowships, Buffalo, for instance, that with proper leadership could develop into a strong church. The field of chaplaincy has tremendous possibilities. Chaplains are needed in the armed forces, in colleges, in hospitals, and in mental institutions.

In every generation the ministry of the church needs young men to fill its ranks, but now the situation is desperate. Church enrollments are mushrooming in the United States, but not faculty. The church needs young men to fill the pulpits. Nearly every denomination is combing its membership for ministerial candidates. The church in the vicinity of Alfred has literally dozens of men who are untrained serving churches. Many of them are eager for training. The church in Alfred. Many other denominations are in similar predicaments.

The Milton church is by no means a huge church. But it is big enough so that a young man can be a godsend to us. I'm convinced, and I feel very strongly that what Mr. Green was speaking in his home church.] are making one man do two men's work. This church needs, not a part-time assistant pastor, but two full-time ministers. I will be keenly disappointed if this church does not have the vision, in a few short years, to call to its leadership two full-time, well-paid ministers of the Gospel. With adequate leadership, this church could double in
size and strength. And it shouldn't take long, either.

But where will this second man be found? We're just as short of ministers as other denominations. At present, we have about ten churches without pastors. At least half of these are strong enough churches to pay a minister an adequate salary. We've had a few ministers who will soon reach retirement age. And we don't have enough replacements coming up.

We have a good seminary at Alfred. To keep our churches supplied, and provide the necessary leadership for outreach and growth, we need about five new men to enter the seminary each year. Last year we had one! This year we will probably have one! We can't go on this way for many years.

The Seventh Day Baptist denomination of the Church of Jesus Christ is calling youth, challenging youth, to enter its ministry. I know enough of our Seventh Day Baptist young people to feel sure that we have the kind of young people — and we have enough of them — to make us strong, to make us grow, to make us a real worth-while part of the Christian Church. But, we must challenge them to higher standards of Christian living than we have been used to, we must challenge them to lives of service, and acts of leadership. This is the church's challenge to youth — full commitment to Jesus Christ.

"The call of the hour is not for lower but for higher standards of Christianity. Lowering the standard spells defeat. This old world can never be evangelized. The cross of Christ is not entwined with flowers. Those who cross with feel its sharp angles and corners. Christ is not offering pillows of ease but calling for pillars of power..." (John Bunyan Smith).

"If any man would come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me" (Matt. 16:24).

"Science can dry our dishes, but it cannot dry our tears. Only religion can do that." — G. Ray Jordan.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

THE PASSWORD IS NO SECRET

Probationer: That's a clumsy word.
Professor: Which one?
Prob: Election.
Prof: If you think the word is awkward, imagine what must be its witness: about every kind and diverse type of those who believe ever spawned by Christendom.
Prob: What does the World Council of Churches propose to do with them?
Prof: House them.
Prob: Oikos means house in Greek. I'm with you.
Prof: So we use the word Oikoumene.
The English is "ecumenical." The whole faith is housed — all races, nations, and branches of the Church.
Prob: Do you have to be religious, even Christian, to be ecumenical?
Prof: Why?
Prob: Electricity is ecumenical, isn't it? Or, as someone has said, "Water is an ecumenical H2O from Turkey to Timbuktu."
Prof: If you are going to be a disciple like the Galilee fishermen, you are something other than a natural process, you are committed.
Prob: If you are to be housed, you've got to ask to be let in?
Prof: And repeat the password.
Prob: Like a secret club?
Prof: Not quite. It's chiseled into the stone over the doorway, so none need plead ignorance: "I believe in Jesus Christ..."
Prob: I'm against secret societies.
Prof: This is no secret society. As I say, the password is everywhere apparent. The reason that is required is that you repeat it.
Prob: Just to get in?
Prof: To identify yourself.
Prob: Could not the hypocrites use the words?
Prof: They could and they do.
Prob: What advantage is there then?...
Prof: The value of the password is not the impression it makes on the one who hears. What counts is your witness.

A Continued Story of Tract Distribution

One of our readers has asked us to publish more stories of tract distribution. Not all stories that have a good beginning move along as rapidly as the one we are telling here, but there are many interesting stories constantly unfolding in the correspondence of the secretary of the American Sabbath Tract Society.

The setting of this story is Gardiner, Maine. It begins with a very brief letter dated May 19, 1956, from a man in that community, which reads as follows: "I would like to know about the belief of the Sabbath denomination. If you publish any literature, would you please send me a list of your publications and prices of the same.

"This was not an unusual letter. We get many very similar ones from all over the United States, Canada, and a number of other countries. Confidence from that point on has been growing and glowing with interest. We now have about 9 letters to and from this man and his wife, and the story of his witness is expected to continue.

"His second letter ordered books as well as tracts and inquired if there were any literature, would you please send me a list of your publications and prices of the same.

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"His second letter ordered books as well as tracts and inquired if there were any literature, would you please send me a list of your publications and prices of the same.

Later at his own expense he printed in its entirety one of our tracts, "Creation's Birthday." Responses from this advertising are coming in in limited numbers to our denominational headquarters.

In the meantime he and his wife obtained credentials from the Baptist church of which they had been members and made a weekend journey to Rhode Island where arrangements were made to receive them into the membership of one of our oldest churches. The names have already been published as accessions to that church.

That is the story up to this point. It is a continued story, other chapters of which we will unfold and as they find more and more opportunities for service. It might be remarked that even before this couple had become members of a church they had contributed more money to our denominational work than shows for some whole churches during a year's time. They gave as unto the Lord and as the Lord has prospered them — not large amounts but amounts such as any devoted Christian should feel impelled to give.

Death of a Friend

Mrs. Harry Boling in a personal letter informs us of the death of her husband at the Boling home, Cal., on Sept. 10. He was 67 years of age and had been forced into retirement two or three years ago by heart trouble. The Bolings, though not a member of one of our churches, were deeply interested in the distribution of our literature. Mrs. Boling, who is 57, made her home for her mother and writes that she must finish her work so that she can join her husband "on that day and be with the Lord and him ever after."
THE SABBATH RECORDER

Nation-Wide Religious Survey

At the end of September some of the findings of the nation-wide religious survey since 1936 were made known. It shows the probable percentage of church-affiliated people by states. Based on the reports of 114 religious bodies, ranging from church members among major faith groups, as distinct from their relation to population, shows Protestants reported as 53 per cent of the total, Roman Catholics as 40 per cent, Jewish constituents as 6 per cent.

"In computing average membership," the report said, "a comparison is made between the Catholic national average of 1,884 members per church, and the Protestant average of 240. This would be slightly modified by the fact that many Protestant groups count as members only those confirmed at 14 years or older, while Roman Catholics count baptized infants."

The adjusted rank order is that in 27 states more than 60 per cent of the population is affiliated with churches. By areas, the Middle Atlantic, Southern, and western North Central states generally show high church membership in proportion to population.

States with less than 45 per cent church members were counted as low. Oregon is lowest of all with 32.2. Nevada, Washington, New Mexico, and Wyoming are also among the lowest. One of the reasons suggested is sparseness of population resulting in difficulty of getting accurate reports.

The figures show that in four leading states the percentage of church-affiliated people is as high as 75 or 80. Two of these states, Rhode Island and Louisiana, are predominantly Catholic by population.

The District of Columbia also is reported as having 80 per cent of its people on church membership lists.

For the entire nation the division of church members among major faith groups, as distinct from their relation to population, shows Protestants reported as 53 per cent of the total, Roman Catholics as 40 per cent, Jewish constituents as 6 per cent.

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doing or needs to do to complete his
theological studies.
Rev. Lee Holloway, pastor at Plainfield,
is again enrolled at New Brunswick Sem­inary.
commentary of his books on the New Testa­ment week this fall. Rev. Paul Osborn.
addition to his full duties as pastor of the
Church, is pursuing a course in Mexic.
understand, the regular course at Faith
Theological Seminary near Philadelphia
in which he was enrolled last year.

Council Speaks on Campaign Issues

The National Council believes firmly in
the separation of church and state. This
does not mean, however, that Christians
as citizens should remain aloof from poli­tics.
The churches are lrimarily con­cerned
human beings.

At its meeting on July 6, 1956, the
General Board of the National Council
adopted a statement entitled "Christian
Responsibility in the 1956 Elections.
Among the principal points stressed in
statement declares: "The official pronounce­ments of the churches in the area of social action
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ITEMS OF INTEREST

Everyone possessed with any of the
milk of human kindness has sympathy for
those who suffer with leprosy. One of
the oldest and certainly the largest of the
leprosy colonies is Culion in the
Philippines which was established 50 years ago.
Many lepers, especially those among the
islands 15 years later, promoted the work
vigorously. It is now supported by the
charitable, Leonard Wood Memorial, 1 Madison
Ave., New York 10, N. Y.

Through the years the place grew
steadily until, when World War II began,
there were six thousand patients — more
than at any similar station anywhere in
the world. At the war's end less than
one thousand remained of two thousand
of the patients had fled when almost
no food came from the outside. The

October 15, 1956

were threatened with starvation; another
two thousand actually did starve and were
buried in hastily made graves dug by their
companions, themselves all but too weak
and ill for work. At the end, the Army
and Navy officials, in cooperation with the
various church, government, and
international agencies, were able to
relieve the situation. The church
reached out and was able to

$839,338. These figures represent a
substantial increase over the past three
years" according to CROP's annual report
issued recently.

Dr. Norman H. Smith, British educator,
speaking recently before the World
Methodist Conference, stated that the
authority of the Bible is being challenged today as
it was in the sixth century. He says that
the attack has arisen from the ever-
widening sweep of modern knowledge.
He added, however, that science's investi­
gation of the universe will convince
scientists of the existence of a Supreme
Mystery for which the Bible is the sole
authority.

Bishop F. Gerald Enslay of Des Moines
told the World Methodist Conference
that "the greater the success of science,
the more imperative the need for Christ­
ian control.

He said science has not "invalidated
the logic of faith" but "created an atmos­
phere in which the world makes the
Christian enterprise difficult."

"We need no longer feel that science
is an enemy of our faith or of Christian­ity,"
the bishop said. "It is a subtle foe, a
fifth column, a psychology which per­
verses the atmosphere which religious men
breathe and impairs their vigor." — Alaba­
"The sabbath recorder
The National Council spoke on the
Washington area, promoting the work
Charles Garritson, then General Confer­
council representatives at meetings of
the Resolutions committees of both par­
ties, for what help it might be to them
in their deliberations. — Memo, a pub­
lication of the Washington Office of
National Council of Churches.

Note: The Resolutions Committee of the
Seventh-Day Baptist General Conference
meeting at Alfred, N. Y., in August,
urged that the text of the above men­
tioned statement of NCCC be circulated
to our churches. The October 1 issue of
Memo presents in parallel columns what
the National Council leaders presented to
the two major parties and the statements
in the platforms of both parties in regard
to the same items. It is rather striking
that the sentiments expressed which both
parties failed to touch in their plat­
forms. One was on "Investigative Pro­
cure," which refers to efforts to establish,
and keep ourselves alive, gave from their meager
supply as much as they could to save, if
possible, those who were dying of malnu­
trition.

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More than 178,000 pounds of seeds, 270,000 pounds of rice, and 900 pounds
of vitamin pills were among the total of
more than a half million pounds of
food gifts sent by American churches
last year to the needy overseas. The
contributions given through CROP — the
Christian Rural Overseas Program, an
interdenominational agency of the Church
World Service — had a total value of

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

RIVERSIDE CALIF. — The Sabbath
services held at Pacific Pines Camp, Sep­
tember 1, proved an inspiration to the
large and attentive congregation who sat
on the mountainside and listened. Prof.
Ralph Coon, of Randolph College, brought
the wonder of the Gospel message freshly
to our minds again in his sermon, “This
Mystery — Christ in You.”

Since the tables on the dining porches of
the lodge were inadequate to accom­
modate the entire crowd, quite a number
of people ate their noonday lunch at
small tables arranged on the volleyball
court. Christian sociability prevailed.

Later in the day a representative panel
from Conference presented the various
aspects of the sessions with Pastor
Wheeler presiding. Mrs. Elizabeth Bon-
ham brought a report of the women's work. Mrs. R. T. Fetherston, of the Women's Board, added to her remarks. Reports from both Conference and Commission were given by Albyn Mackintosh, of Los Angeles.

The entire Labor Day weekend camp included two more days of blessing, enlightenment and fellowship for those enrolled. Besides the local leadership, Arlie and Edith Davis, of Phoenix, Ariz., were on the teaching staff.

On September 8 our pastor brought a forceful message, "Our Rule Is God," from the declaration of the Apostle Paul. Mrs. R. T. Fetherston was guest organist for the special baptismal service held on September 15. Four young people made their start in the Christian life by open testimony and baptism.

Shortly after this Pastor Wheeler suffered a fractured vertebra which hospitalized him for ten days. He is now recuperating at home. Though still in a cast, his pain is considerably relieved. During his absence from the pulpit, Bill Rymer preached on September 22 on "The Calling of a Steward," which brought a very favorable response. Equally effective was the sermon on September 29 by Rev. T. Denton Lee on Jesus' admonition to the rich young ruler: "If thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments," and "Sell thou hast." We make loving mention of the untimely and tragic death of Lt. Phillip Henry, when his jet plane crashed over Mt. Wilson, early in September. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may have rest from their labours; and their works do follow them."

SHILOH, N. J. — In September the Youth Choir began singing again under the direction of Mrs. Elden Hitchener. On the last Sabbath of each month the Junior Choir will sing with Mrs. William Richardson, Jr., directing. This choir includes boys and girls from 8 to 11 years of age.

Pastor Lippincott enjoyed a two weeks' vacation with his family in Michigan in early September.

For a progressive supper for the County Intermediate Christian Endeavorers the soup was served in the Shiloh Church to about 80.

September 29 was Promotion Day and the officers and teachers were elected for another year of service.

Rev. Leon Lawton and Dr. Victor Burdick were the guest speakers at the one hundred forty-second annual meeting of the Female Mite Society on September 1. The money collected from the dues of this unique society and the memorial fund will be divided between these two dedicated men to be used for some necessary equipment in their particular work.

Miss Marilyn Osborn who is employed as a teacher in Bridgeton is a welcome addition once again in her "home" church. The fall Joint Communion service of the two South Jersey churches was held with us on October 6. Rev. Paul B. Osborn of Marlboro brought the message of the morning.

The members of our church feel a deep humility and great pride in having the Conference select Deacon Charles F. Harris as their president. Our prayers and co-operation will go with him. We know that it will be a busy year for him as he plans to visit as many churches as time and strength will permit. — Correspondent.

METAIRIE, LA., GROUP — The Metairie group of the Hammond Church enjoyed the recent visit of Rev. Marion Van Horn. During his visit we held special services and he helped us in making plans for a Fellowship here in Metairie in the near future. At present we all make the trip to Hammond every Sabbath day to church, but hold our prayer meetings here on Friday nights. The children all participate in conducting these services. We are starting a film study.

OUR SERVICEMEN
SFC Herbert M. Ayars RA13266967
413 Broadway
Columbus, Ga.

Obituaries

Severance. — Louette Carl, was born in Dodge Center, Minn., Nov. 23, 1879, and died Sept. 30, 1956, at North Loup, Neb. He is survived by four sons: Clifton of Ord, Neb., Leighton of Battle Creek, Mich., Cecil of North Loup, and Chester of Hawthorne, Calif.; also two daughters: Lillian of Evanson, Wyo., and Lucille of Denver, Colo. Funeral services were conducted at North Loup by Rev. Francis Saunders, and interment was in Grand Island, beside his wife.

F. D. S.

Beautiful Scene on the Campus of Alfred University, Alfred, N. Y.

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth." (Ps. 121: 1, 2.)