NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

ADAMS CENTER, N. Y. — A Vacation Bible School was held in the two churches of our village with 90 enrolled, June 25-July 6. Three of the teachers were from our church: Pastor Cruzan, Mrs. Nellie Burbur, and Mrs. Gerald Greene; and three of our young people were helpers: Diane Avery, Barbara Cruzan, and Rodney Greene. Twelve of our young people later went to Camp Harmony for a week. At least three plan to attend Pre-Con and Conference.

Funeral services for Rev. E. H. Bottoms were held in our church June 6. Mr. Bottoms was well known in this community, having served as our pastor until he was called to take up missionary work. The large attendance and the many floral tributes showed the high esteem in which he was held.

On the evening of June 30 a company of the church people gathered at the parsonage, as a surprise for Pastor and Mrs. Cruzan, the occasion being their twentieth wedding anniversary. Gilbert Horton in behalf of the company presented them with an electric clock and a purse of money. The evening ended with music and community singing.

Our church was pleased that the editor of the Sabbath Recorder was with us June 30 and July 7. (Mr. Maltby was serving his annual two weeks of chaplain duty at Camp Drum.) At Pastor Cruzan’s request he preached the first Sabbath he was here on the topic, “What’s Ahead for Seventh Day Baptists.” On the second Sabbath he assisted with the Communion service.

The Maltby name has had a long association with the Adams Center Church. When the children are up in the front pew of the church listening to the special sermon our pastor has for them, it is not at all unusual to see several sixth-generation Maltbys among them. The editor was born into this church, was baptized and joined in early youth. Throughout his college years and while in theological school all his vacations were spent back here at Adams Center. When he and Mrs. Maltby were married, it was our pastor at that time, Rev. Loyal F. Hurley, who united them; and when he was ordained into the ministry, that happy occasion was conducted in the Adams Center Church. Through the intervening years, those early close associations have been as far as possible maintained, and it is always a gladsome occasion to us when “Leo” comes home. — Correspondent.

WHITE CLOUD, MICH. — The first Sabbath day in July was another full day. Communion services were held, followed by a fellowship luncheon. Then the new officers of the Ladies’ Aid Society were formally installed with a candlelighting ceremony. Mrs. Orville Babcock read the charge to each officer. The program concluded with the presentation of two one-act plays written by Mrs. Wilkinson, dramatizing the founding of the first Seventh Day Baptist Church in America.

Action was taken by the church to pay our pastor’s expense in driving to Conference. We are glad to report that Pastor Babcock has fully recovered from his surgery and has been able to resume his outside work again — preaching in first-day churches in Big Rapids, Big Prairie, Fremont, and Newaygo.

Friends of Nathan Branch will be sorry to learn of the death of Mrs. Branch on July 13. She had been confined to her home for many months.

The Harold Bakker family will soon be moving to Battle Creek, Mich., where Mr. Bakker will join the teaching staff of the Battle Creek school system. — Correspondent.

BIRTHS

Burdick. — A son, Bruce Stanley, to Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Burdick of Middletown, Conn., on June 20, 1956.

Sabbathkeeping churches and promoters of the Sabbath of the Bible can now procure an invaluable historic Chart of the Week showing the unchanged order of the days of the week and the true position of the Sabbath as proved by the combined testimony of 160 ancient and modern languages. It was prepared by the scholar, Rev. William Mead Jones, D.D., who was pastor of the Seventh Day Baptist Church in London, England. A photostatic copy in 4 parts each measuring 17½ by 22½ inches and suitable for framing may be procured by sending $10 to Mark Willey, 5614 S. Morgan St., Chicago, Ill.

Members of the Commission of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference pictured at Alfred, N. Y., after their week of deliberation. Left to right, back row: Clarence M. Rogers, Salem, W. Va.; Rev. Earl Cruzan, Adams Center, N. Y.; Rev. David S. Clarke, Boulder, Colo.; front row: Albyn Mackintosh, Los Angeles, Calif.; Rev. Charles H. Bond, Westerly, R. I.; and Charles F. Harris, Shiloh, N. J. The same men will serve next year except that Dr. C. LeRoy DeLand of Bellevue, Mich., will replace Mr. Rogers.
The Sabbach Recorder

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A Magazine for Christian Enlightenment and Inspiration
Member of the Associated Church Press

REV. LEON M. MALBY, Editor

Contributing Editors:

MISSIONS
Everett T. Harris, D.D.
Mrs. Godfrey P. Parish

WOMEN'S WORK
Mrs. Lester Nelson

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
Rex E. Zweibel, B.D.

In this Issue:

Activities Preceding Conference
The one hundred forty-fourth annual session of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference began its six-day meeting with the daily prayer hour at 9 a.m. Tuesday, August 14, in the university town of Alfred, N. Y., with sessions being held mostly in the local church--the only church building in the village. These columns will report in this and last issues much of its six-day work done at Alfred, but our first article wish to point out some of the activities preceding Conference. There are always special meetings just before the annual gathering of our delegates. This year there were many more than usual. This may have been partly due to holding the Conference in a Community where such pre-Conference activities did not present the problems faced last year when the Conference was held in rented facilities a considerable distance from any Seventh Day Baptist church. We must note also that there are more organizations and associations functioning now than there were a year ago.

The Commission of the General Conference, which always faces a more intensive order of business, began its work at nine o'clock on Monday, August 14, of Albymackintosh of Los Angeles spent about fourteen hours each day in business sessions, the only respite being on the Sabbath. They moved to Alfred for the work of the final two days when there were special meetings with other groups. The longest one ever submitted to Conference was the view of the record time and was made available to all delegates on Tuesday afternoon, the opening day of Conference.

Very important to representative young people from widely scattered areas of the nation was the Pre-Conference Retreat centered on the Alfred Union College campus, with meetings beginning on Thursday evening and ending Monday evening just prior to the opening of General Conference.

The Ministerial Training Committee, a top-level planning group which began to function this year, was also featured in the activities which preceded the Conference. Its report this year shows progress which may pave the way for a more realistic facing next year of the over-all program of training our future leaders.

On Sunday afternoon, representatives of the boards and agencies joined the Commission in a four-hour consideration of a detailed outline of denominational growth and expansion to be included in the Commission's report.

There will be more about this later.

Again that evening the fifth meeting of the Planning Committee, which Commission and Conference set up last year, was called together to endorse its report on the probationary period of the new churches in Nigeria. This small group of paid secretaries also assigned tasks to be accomplished before the next meeting in October.

On the evening before Conference the financial program contemplated for the denomination-wide activities in the Alfred community before the president's gavel called the first public meeting to order in the well-filled church auditorium on August 14.

On the more local level there had been tremendous activity also in too many directions to be mentioned here. Well-managed committees of local church trustees, and college personnel had left nothing undone in the months, weeks, and days leading up to the entertainment of the Conference. From the opening of Conference to the last day of business every thing was in order. The church properties were well cleaned and renamed. The exterior of every thing was tightened with the whiteness of new paint. Homes, dormitories, and camping facilities were ready for the large delegation expected.

The Source of Human Conflicts
James 3: 4-5; 4: 1-12.

Sabhat School Lesson
for September 8, 1956

EDITORIAL NOTES

Behind the News

Most of us try to evaluate the news we hear, especially when there is reason to believe that it is slanted for propaganda purposes. We believe that some new is coming from government sources in our own country is so slanted. To a far greater extent and for purposes far less noble, the news from the Soviet Union and satellite countries is, we believe, colored. It needs to be read with some kind of see-through glasses. Take, for instance, the much-heralded cut in Soviet military forces. We try to understand what is back of it. In one editorial the editor of a religious monthly in the re-ligious monthly in the re-

August 27, 1956

Sabbath School Lesson, 99


Sabhat School Lesson, 99


Sabhat School Lesson, 99
We should not be cynical of the motives of good men, but neither should we be dupes of the devil. To believe in the goodness of those who would destroy Christianity if they could be neither wise nor Christian.

CONFERENCE AT PRAYER

The organized prayer meetings of Conference this year were an integral part of the program rather than an after-hours activity. Daily prayer meetings were scheduled in the church auditorium at 8 a.m. except on the first day when it was at 9 o'clock and on Sabbath morning when the hour was set at 8:30. There were also some small private gatherings in some of the rooms of the dormitories, but these were the daily half-hour prayer periods.

Those who found themselves too busy with their matters to get in the pews exactly on time for the first prayer session were a bit surprised to find the doors locked to avoid disturbing those engaged in prayer. They understood the lesson quickly and tried to arrive on time on the succeeding mornings. These were times of refreshing and moments of power for those who attended.

In a sense this was a nation-wide prayer meeting, which gave one a different feeling from Ashaway and Westerly, R. I.; from Washington, D. C.; from Milton, Colo., and Nortonville, Kan.; from Philadelphia and Salemville, Pa.; from Adrian, Center, Alfred, De Ruiter, Schenectady, Verona, and Berlin, N. Y.; from Milton and St. John's, from Washington, D. C.; Lost Creek, W. Y., from Shiloh and Plainfield, N. J.; from Denver, Colo., and Nortonville, Kan.; from Philadelphia and Salemville, Pa.; from Adrian, Center, Alfred, De Ruiter, Schenectady, Verona, and Berlin, N. Y.; from Milton and St. John's, from Washington, D. C.; Lost Creek, W. Y., from Shiloh and Plainfield, N. J.; and finally, from Jamaica, B. W. I.

On other mornings the representation would be widened. This meeting, under different leadership each day, was a source of strength. Besides this there were, of course, the many prayers connected with periods of worship. Each day the special programs throughout the days and evenings. Unison prayers were used once each day in the morning devotions, some of which may be shared with the readers of the Recorder. Although prayer was not the theme this year as it will be next year, it did contribute much to the general tone and success of the meetings.

HIGHWAY HOMICIDE

In a National Safety Council ad prepared for inclusion in daily and weekly papers, it states that in all probability this year’s record will show 6000 highway accidents that were not accidents at all. The FBI reports that 15 per cent of all traffic deaths are crimes, not accidents. This highway homicide due to driver negligence ought to be stopped. Automobile drivers, who are the best of the law, are more conscious of highway safety and longest responsibility. They will be responsible for 40,000 funerals this year.

Although alcohol is responsible for a great many of these crimes it is not responsible for all. Youthful recklessness is accurately measured by insurance statistics, but that does not account for all the trouble. We know that Christian drivers are more conscious of highway courtesy and highway hazards than other drivers, but far too many professing Christians are not as careful about carrying their religion with them on the road as about being able to show a driver’s license. It is to our eternal shame that we do not see from whence these good folks come in the early morning and we see around us people from Los Angeles and Riverside, Calif., from Minot, N. D., from Shiloh and Plainfield, N. J.; from Denver, Colo., and Nortonville, Kan.; from Philadelphia and Salemville, Pa.; from Adrian, Center, Alfred, De Ruiter, Schenectady, Verona, and Berlin, N. Y.; from Milton and St. John’s, from Washington, D. C.; Lost Creek, W. Y., from Shiloh and Plainfield, N. J.; and finally, from Jamaica, B. W. I.

WELCOME TO CONFERENCE DELEGATES

By Dr. J. N. Norwood
President Bond, Ladies and Gentlemen, Christian Friends:

President Drake has welcomed you to the Seventh Day Baptist Church, its teachings, its spirit, and its hospitality. His welcome was not just personal; he spoke for many others who welcome you through him. My welcome, too, is in behalf of the conference, for I welcome you in the name of this 144-year-old First Alfred Church, the Second Alfred Church at Alfred Station, and other assisting churches, as well as to this Western Association since it also is your host — for all these I speak and for myself.

We welcome you because we are who we are — the members of these churches. This church, in particular, has been the mother of churches; and its members played a leading role in the founding and early development of Alfred University. In that sense it can claim to be 100 years old, as I am sure you will agree, when we come to the General Conference in your home churches.

We welcome you to these fruits of our labor and the in these years. We are glad to exhibit them, gladly make known to Dr. Harold O. Burdick, our general chairman, and your unhappiness, I am sure, will be dispelled.

We welcome you because we are who we are.

By the same token we welcome you because you are who you are — the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference, delegates and friends, our denominational representative body founded even before this church was founded. While I do not wish to belittle you, I do make bold to ask you to persuade our individualistic samples of the otherwise-minded to accept your advice, that you may finally tell the Alfred, Milton, Westerly, and other churches what to do. No Sir!

Now do I hear murmurs of dissent? "Non, Monsieur, they say, "you are too hard on us. You are going too fast and too far." Well, your objections are partly correct. We cannot live by such extreme doctrines.

Two circumstances limit the full application of such frozen individualism. The first is the fact that Seventh Day Baptists like other Baptists wish to carry on various joint enterprises which they cannot do as separate churches. You know them — home and foreign missions, a publishing house, tract distribution, a denominational periodical, religious education, evangelization, and others. Therefore, we organize tract and missionary societies, a board on Christian education, a seminary, and the like which require the support and direction of more than one church.

The other circumstance which creates and increases your power is that these boards and societies need money from many churches. Oh, yes, they have special gifts and endowments of their own, but not enough. The remainder must come from sources you control, i.e., general denominational giving. We all know that anyone who can hand out cash can excise power.

Hence, the desire for these larger enterprises which require joint action and cash which comes from us all, gives you General Conference the real entrance into the picture.

The boards, societies, and secretaries survey their corporate projects and state their needs from denominational funds. Then your officers and your Commission spend days and days (until they are in a gaze often) examining these plans and requests which have come in, and in the light of their vision, including all the interests and the available
THE SABBATH RECORDER

BE HAPPY! YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD!

Rev. Charles H. Bond, President

As I sat in my study thinking about the message of the Conference president what I might say that would be most helpful and challenging—I seemed to be in the dark. So it was that I thought about God at the beginning of time as He sat in the darkness looking out upon a mass that was without form and void. I recalled the first words that the Scripture says God spoke: “Let there be light: and there was light” (Gen. 1: 3-4a). He set the sun in the sky to give light by day, the moon to give light by night, and He scattered the heavens with the lesser lights. Now that there was light in the world, it was possible to bring forth life. And after He had created various forms of life, He created man in His own image. He set man in the world to be a light and a guide—yes, to have dominion over His creation.

As God looked upon man He realized the separation which was there through no fault of His. But what could He do? He could set up a light by praying in Himself that man would see the light and follow it. John puts it this way: “That (Jesus) was the true light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world” (John 3: 9). Jesus burned with the fullness of life to bring the love of a heart to men. And God lighted His own Son into the world to give spiritual light. Then man could see himself for what he was, and happiness can be secured. Jesus, too, realized that if this light were to be kept alive the Sabbath must be revived with its true meaning and significance. “He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day as his custom was,” and then pointed out that “the Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath.” By His example and teaching He showed that the Sabbath must be observed if the light of God were to be kept burning in the lives of men.

Jesus said, “He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he is that loveth me; and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him” (John 14: 21). But because men were so selfish, He was crucified. He was crucified, and Jesus assured them that death was not the end for a true follower but the beginning of a new life “Because I live, ye shall live also” (John 14: 19).

After His resurrection He said: “Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.”

We are here at Conference because we have seen the Light, and because we want to have a part in the shedding of that Light abroad throughout the world. This we do individually and as a group. As Seventh Day Baptists we have a twofold mission: first we must give Christ to the world and then we must teach men to keep this Light glowing in their lives through the keeping of the Sabbath.

This we have tried to do as a denomination through our various boards and agencies. This work has been supported by what we call our “Denominational Budget.” Somehow, I have grown more and more to dislike the word “budget.” It is too dead and lifeless. I wish we might change the wording from ‘Denominational Budget’ to ‘Our World Mission’ and keep before our people the mission which is ours. “We are the light of the world.”

Just what is our mission? Look for a moment at the Board of Christian Education. This is to promote the teaching arm of the church. More than 70% of the people who come into our churches come in through the Church School. Our teaching mission is vital. What about the Tract Board? This board has brought a knowledge of Christ, the true Light, through the printed word. Here is a vital part of ‘Our World Mission.” The work of the Miscellaneous Board speaks for itself. Its mission is at home and abroad, as is the mission of our other boards.

What about the part of our budget that goes to the School of Theology? Certainly we have a mission to prepare young men and women to teach and preach the Gospel. This mission also extends to our other denominations. Dr. Torbet says, “The Ministers Conference that one of the main
**THE SABBATH RECORDER**

**Introduction Remarks by Secretary E. T. Harris**

[On occasion of presenting Missionary Interests at General Conference, on August 15, 1956.]

The presentation of the Gospel message runs deep, only of looking ridiculous, which is its glory, but of being ridiculous, which is its disgrace. As to the presenting of the Gospel looking ridiculous or of missionaries of the Cross actually being laughed at and abused, the answer to this is the same as in the day of the Apostle Paul, who cried, "God forbid that I should glory save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ." It did not matter to Paul if he was ridiculed, persecuted, or cast out—just as Christ was lifted up for all men to see in all His purity and goodness. When one's basic motive is to express one's love and devotion to a crucified and risen Lord, it then does not matter greatly if that missionary is held up to scorn. In fact, he can glory in it.

As to the presenting of the Gospel actually being ridiculous, this is quite a different matter. This is its disgrace. Does it ever seem ridiculous to you?

When a missionary's life or a missionary board secretary's life does not match his teaching, it opens the way for the presenting of the Gospel to be ridiculed and the cause of the Master to be disgraced. Again when the missionary has not tried to prepare himself or his missionary or has made no effort to learn the language, customs, background, and traditions of the people he would serve, it may turn out that he will become a laughingstock and his message so irrelevant as to be ridiculous.

It is to keep this from ever happening that the Missionary Board urges the missionary-elect to take special training in an accredited school of missions. It is also urged that any missionary going to a new field be advised by trusted friends among American leaders and churches have been shown at three churches.

Plan Commissioning Service

As mentioned previously on mission pages of the Recorder, a Commissioning Service for missionaries-elect, Rev. and Mrs. Leon R. Lawton and Dr. Victor H. Burdick who are to serve in Jamaica and Nyasaland, Africa, respectively, is being planned by the committee appointed by the Missionary Board at its last quarterly meeting, July 22, 1956.

This Commissioning Service will be held in the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church, Sabbath afternoon, September 8, 1956, at 3 p.m. The following program is being arranged.

Opening Worship Service — Pastor Charles H. Bond in charge

Sermon — Rev. Paul S. Burdick

Presentation of Missionaries-elect — Secretary E. T. Harris

Statements of Candidates — Mrs. Leon Lawton

Rev. Leon R. Lawton

Dr. Victor H. Burdick

Anthem by the Choir of the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church

Charge to Candidates — Dr. Edwin Whitford

Charge to Seventh Day Baptists — Rev. Lester Osborn

Consecration Prayer Circle, Benediction — Rev. Harold R. Crandall in charge

The ladies of the board are being asked to have charge of a social hour in the vestry of the church following the Commissioning Service.

A most cordial invitation is extended to all Seventh Day Baptists to attend this service.

As to the following charge: We expect that Rev. Leon R. Lawton will speak at the Sabbath morning service in the Pawcatuck Church on that day.

**Evangelistic Plans for 1956-57 Conference Year**

The following letter, sent to all churches in our denomination, will inform all Seventh Day Baptists of evangelistic plans for the 1956-57 Conference Year:

**Dear Brothers in Christ:**

On June 12, 1956, a letter was sent to all Seventh Day Baptist pastors and ministers concerning an urgent request that they be asked to designate their willingness to bring a series of evangelistic messages sometime during the 1956-57 Conference year if asked to do so by one of our churches and if the home church agreed to release them, providing for the filling of his regular pulpit for one week. Nineteen pastors have designated such willingness.

The letter to the pastors stated: "It is our plan to provide our churches with a list of names of those pastors who have designated willingness to serve as evangelists, leaving it to the churches to decide whether or not they want to hold such services and if so to contact the list of those whom they choose to assist their pastor in such meetings."

By following this plan it is hoped that Rev. Loyd Hurley, evangelist on the home field, will be able to fill the pulpit of his full schedule of services to the older established churches and will become increasingly available for extension work to the more needy areas where opportunities are open.

The list of names of those pastors who stated willingness to serve as evangelists is included in this letter. The churches are urged to begin plans for special meetings early in the Conference year.

"Also you are urged to release your pastor for at least one such special series if he is invited and wishes to accept. It is not expected that a pastor should accept more than one such release during the year, unless for very special and urgent reasons. His first duty lies with the church which he serves as pastor. However, such a preaching experience will surely strengthen his own evangelistic message and eventually bless the church which releases him for this service and the congregation."

The list of pastors as submitted with the foregoing letter is as follows: Pastors...

Let us all work together for the furtherance of Christ's kingdom on the home field.

Notes from the August Meeting of the Women's Board

The report of the Summer Project Committee showed that all requests from churches could not be filled as only one woman per church was available. Miss Joyce McWilliam, volunteer. She has had a busy schedule assisting in Bible schools at Palatka, Fla.; Paint Rock, Ala.; Nady, Ark., and in the Southwest Association Camp.

[Miss McWilliam who caught a night train after finishing her work in Arkansas arrived at Alfred in time for the opening of General Conference and took her experiences to the women of the denomination at the Friday luncheon.]

Final plans for Conference were discussed. It was voted to present each pastor's wife at Conference a "courage" to wear throughout the meetings to identify her so that we may become better acquainted with these important women of our denomination.

It was agreed that the next two Newsletters would be published November 1 and February 1 and be 3-page issues. This change from the regular schedule of three 2-page issues was made because of the expected absence of the editor.

It was voted that we sponsor the hymn and gospel song contest another year as a Conference project. Winners for this year are expected to be announced at Conference.

The report from Karl Stillman on the receipts from the "Jee" coin cards showed $893.01 received by August 6. The board voted to purchase a small card to raise the $1,000 needed for the new car on the Nyasaland mission field.

The new books of children's songs written by Mrs. R. L. Wheeler were presented, and their price is set at 25 cents each. We agreed to send a sample copy to each Sabbath School superintendent, in the hope that all children of the denomination may have a chance to use these Bible songs.

It was voted that we again underwrite the course for the wives of our theological students at Alfred. Miss Myra McAndrews was the teacher last year and it is reported that the students found the course very helpful in their preparation to become ministers' wives.

We also voted to make a gift of $400 to the Alfred School of Theology to be divided among the school's student ministers. This year the coming school year.

In the interest of helping to raise the Denominational Budget for this year and thereby assist in the total program of the denomination, we voted a $1,000 contribution to this fund.

M. P.

The Light Shines Through Christian Education

Under the above heading, the president of the Board of Christian Education, Wayne Brandall, gave a short opening talk as the board's program began on Wednesday afternoon when she was asked to speak extemporaneously to the Conference. Miss Smellie won the friendship of her audience.

The secretary of the University College of the West Indies in Mona, Jamaica, near Kingston, with a B.A. degree. She will return there this fall with a scholarship to do graduate work. This summer, Gem attended a conference on "Solving International Tensions," and with headquarters in New York, the Conference. Miss Smellie says that she has been very much inspired by the devotional and worship services of the Conference though they do not begin as early in the morning as in Jamaica (5:00). She likes the religious character of our Conference business and especially enjoyed the women's program. Gem feels at home among us, perhaps because she already knew a number of the denominational leaders.

Greetings from Jamaica

Miss Gem Smellie of Jamaica brought greetings from the island Wednesday afternoon when she was asked to speak extemporaneously to the Conference. Miss Smellie won the friendship of her audience.

Miscellaneous budgets included: Miss Mary A. Van Horn, of the Southwestern Association, had charge of a page. It was in three sections. Miss Gem Smellie of Jamaica brought greetings from the island Wednesday afternoon when she was asked to speak extemporaneously to the Conference. Miss Smellie won the friendship of her audience.

Greeting from Jamaica

Miss Gem Smellie of Jamaica brought greetings from the island Wednesday afternoon when she was asked to speak extemporaneously to the Conference. Miss Smellie won the friendship of her audience.
COMMISSION OF GENERAL CONFERENCE

The full report of the six-member Commission of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference covering its activities which began with the organizational meeting last August at Fayetteville, Ark., is printed in a 16-page booklet distributed to the delegates at Alfred during the 1956 session of General Conference. Most of our readers are aware that the two principal meetings of this group are held between Christmas and New Years and in August, the week preceding Conference.

Ordinaril the Sabbath Recorder publishes the report in full as soon as possible. For three reasons we are not doing so at this time. First, it is unusually long; second, we have already printed a rather full report of the action taken at the midyear meeting in the issues of January 9 and 23; third, the representatives of nearly all of our churches probably carried home a number of extra copies of the full report in order to put into use the seven steps in the "Program for Denominational Expansion and Growth" (which occupies five pages in the report). Some of these things are in later issues and the whole will be printed in the 1956 Year Book as it was finally adopted by Conference.

We pick up the Commission's report at the places to which it refers the activities between the midyear and pre-Conference meetings in order that our readers may have a background for the important decisions which form the heart of the actions recently taken and acted upon by the General Conference. The report of the Co-ordinating Council at the National Convocation on Immigration and Naturalization, at Washington, D. C., May 20-21, 1956, indicates that she was appointed by that group as a member of their continuing committee.

Clarence M. Rogers reported on attendance at the National Study Conference on the Church and Economic Life, April 12-15, 1956, in Pittsburgh, Pa. K. Duane Hurley and Clifford W. F. Hansen also attended the conference as delegates. Secretary L. M. Malby reported on a filmstrip to be used in the preparation of material for the budget filmstrip in the process of preparation by A. Burdet Crofoot. Due to the detail of the work, the filmstrip was late in production, but gives a very accurate picture of our total mission as a denomination.

Charles North, who accepted the responsibility of budget promotion with the assistance of Charles Bond and Earl Coulson, has been recommended for the very thoughtful analysis of both needs and receipts that he has kept before the denomination through the pages of the Sabbath Recorder.

Six bulletin covers have been sent to our churches in the interest of budget promotion. These have been prepared by various boards showing their part of our mission as a denomination.

As this report is being written, the budget is but 62.01% raised. If the program of the denomination for the current fiscal Conference is realized, the budget will be raised in full. Your Commission would lay the burden of stewardship upon your hearts that this vision may be the heart of your church's giving and denominational funds required for the continuance of the Alfred School of Theology. Commission has suggested to the Ministerial Training Committee that it give consideration to alternative plans for the training of our ministry.

The interim Ministers Relations Committee reports that an accreditation form for the Conference has been completed and is available for inspection at the conference. Permission is requested to continue to participate in the local and national conferences and to reserve suitable assembly grounds.

We recommend that General Conference approve sending representatives to the North American Study Conference (The Nature of the University) to be held at Oberlin, Ohio, from September 3-10, 1957, and that the Ecumenical Relations Committee be asked to select those representatives.

We recommend the Trustees of the General Conference for investigating the General Conference permanent funds through the Board of Trustees of the Seventh Day Baptist Memorial Fund and that a recommendation be presented to General Conference in outline form for its consideration. It is planned to amplify this form for publication during the coming year. In the meantime any questions concerning the use of these plans can be answered by the secretaries of the various participating agencies.

The budget for 1956-57 has been prepared and is submitted to General Conference with the trust that the manner of its presentation this year will be another step toward the work of Seventh Day Baptists in their world mission.

The following recommendations are presented to General Conference for its consideration.

1. We recommend that the president of General Conference be authorized to select the chairman and members of the Conference committee prior to the General Conference, subject to revision at Conference.

2. We commend the churches and the denominational agencies which have cooperated with the General Conference in the work of Seventh Day Baptists in their world mission.

3. We recommend that General Conference authorize the Co-ordinating Council to make recommendations for the Conference meeting place several years in advance in order to rotate the areas in which Conference meets and to reserve suitable assembly grounds.

4. We recommend that General Conference approve sending representatives to the North American Study Conference (The Nature of the University) to be held at Oberlin, Ohio, from September 3-10, 1957, and that the Ecumenical Relations Committee be asked to select those representatives.

5. We recommend that the Trustees of the General Conference for investigating the General Conference permanent funds through the Board of Trustees of the Seventh Day Baptist Memorial Fund and that a recommendation be presented to General Conference in outline form for its consideration. It is planned to amplify this form for publication during the coming year. In the meantime any questions concerning the use of these plans can be answered by the secretaries of the various participating agencies.

6. We commend the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Pascagoula, Miss., for the annual report covering its activities, some have made more use of our boards and agencies be not dimmed by an unrealized budget. The Auditing Committee reports that the accounts of the treasurer of the Denominational Budget and of the treasurer of the General Conference have been duly audited by a competent auditor and are presented.

A list of Seventh Day Baptist ministers has been prepared and is available for inspection at this Conference. Permission is requested to make any necessary changes of address occurring in the publication of this Year Book.

Our churches probably carried home a number of extra copies of the full report in order to put into use the seven steps in the "Program for Denominational Expansion and Growth" (which occupies five pages in the report). Some of these things are in later issues and the whole will be printed in the 1956 Year Book as it was finally adopted by Conference.
continued development of present programs and further recommend that:

(a) Executive Committees be selected and set up in such a way as to provide a continuity for Association activities.

(b) Standing committees promoting the different phases of our denominational work be elected and the charge of each be asked to meet with the Executive Committee.

(c) The Executive Committee be asked to meet quarterly so that they may carry on a program of activities throughout the year.

(d) Special emphasis be placed on workshops as a part of Association activities.

(e) Work projects and summer employment projects be considered.

7. Commission has presented to General Conference Our World Mission which includes income from sources classified as current giving. This classification is intended to include undesignated gifts and designated giving for items within the program whether sent to the denominational treasurer or directly to any board or agency. Commission understands that it has been assigned the responsibility of distributing undesignated gifts to the participating boards and agencies. In order to clarify previous understandings between Commission and boards and agencies concerning undesignated giving, we recommend that the General Conference give to the Commission explicit direction in regard to our authority in the apportioning of undesignated gifts within Our World Mission, recognizing the unbalance which frequently occurs between stipulated salaries to be met, designated giving, and emergencies.

Reference and Counsel Committee Proposal Regarding Treasurer's Recommendation No. 7

1. We unanimously recommend that General Conference reaffirm, with certain clarifications, which follow, its basic action taken in the 1953 session held in Battle Creek, Mich., as contained in the adoption of the Committee on Christian Education Interests (p. 55 of 1953 Year Book) which reads as follows:

(1) That the Denominational Budget be made to be what it was originally intended to be, a budget which accurately reflects the total needs of our boards and agencies, without extra-budgetary actions specifically authorized by the Commission;

(2) That all of our boards participate in distributed denominational funds only to the extent of budget allotments and be asked to report all direct gifts as part of their total budget;

(3) That our people be encouraged to make gifts for special purposes, or to send money directly to the boards, but that our budget policy be flexible enough to allow these gifts to be toward budgetary requirements;

(4) That any amount received over the total budget allotment by any board be held over as a balance for that year or used with the approval of the Commission.

This affirms the function of Commission as given in the by-laws of General Conference, Article 8, Sec. 3, sentence 2 (set p. 73, 1954 Year Book) which reads:

This distribution (i.e., of the Denominational Budget) shall be made at the direction of Commission and in accordance with the wishes of the donors, respectively, of the funds to be distributed.

2. We recommend that on an approximately quarterly basis the Commission evaluate current giving and current needs in the light of Our World Mission, distributing funds on an equitable basis taking into consideration both undesignated monies and designated gifts.

We would further recommend that the distribution for the first quarter be on the basis of a percentage distribution of undesignated monies according to the participation of each board or agency in our total undesignated budget plus designated gifts, and in succeeding quarters Commission adjust this percentage in the light of the amount of designated gifts received by the preceding quarters of the Conference year.

3. We recommend, in the light of Commission's Recommendation No. 7, that the specific direction of the Conference to the Commission regarding their authority in apportioning undesignated gifts within Our World Mission.

EXPLANATION: It appears that some Sabbath School leaders assume that the Junior Quarterly is published at Plainfield. We are sorry for the confusion. The July 23 Sabbath Recorder, on the basis of a telephone call received as we went to press, published the following note from a representative of the Board of Christian Education at Alfred. The Quarters are not published or handled here but the Sabbath Recorder promotes their use.


August 27, 1956

Ratlins Budget Promotion Committee

After almost a month, this column reappears on the column of a renewed request from the Commission to continue until the 1956 fiscal year is completed.

Budget figures on the last page show that we are ahead of last year both in amount and percentage of our goal raised — for which we thank God! As it is every year, however, the last mile is perhaps the hardest — so let us not slacken our efforts for a Denominational Budget raised in full this year. If we are to accomplish next year’s 'Our World Mission' goal, it is imperative to finish 1956 in the black.

We would give special recognition to Farina, Irvington, New York, and Plainfield, who have passed the goal suggested in the July 23 tabulation. Edinburg also has come very close to its goal and many others are making real progress.

Then we would also report rough figures for the Conference Sabbath receipts. Approximately $660 was given a year ago, but this year's total was about $1,340 at Alfred plus $1,450 in 19 local churches for a total offering of $2,800. Perhaps some later column or a report from our nominational treasurer, Olin C. Davis, will give the exact figures, but we are highly encouraged by the present indications.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Continued from page 105)

reasons why the American Baptist Convention belongs to the National Council of Churches. To this end we emphasize the importance of the individual, that every man stands as a priest before God. Our witness as Seventh Day Baptists is the same as that of the Baptists but goes one step farther as we bring before man the Sabbath — God's means of keeping contact with Ye have a world mission that is vital. "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.'

I trust that here at Conference we may catch something of the significance of all this through the prepared program — worship services, anthems, sermons, Bible studies, reports, etc. And may we begin to live a truly happy life with a desire to share that joy with others. May God bless us as we meet here, May He touch our hearts until we become true lights of the world.'

"Be happy! You are the light of the world!"
DENOMINATIONAL BUDGET
Statement of the Treasurer, July 31, 1956
Receipts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-Budget</th>
<th>Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 10 mos.</td>
<td>10 mos.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance, July 1</td>
<td>$ 19.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adams Center</td>
<td>$ 729* $ 43</td>
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<tr>
<td>Albion</td>
<td>$ 321</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alfred, 1st</td>
<td>$ 2,010</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alfred, 2nd</td>
<td>$ 677*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ann, Inc.</td>
<td>$ 96.04</td>
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<tr>
<td>Battle Creek</td>
<td>$ 1,081.90</td>
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<tr>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>$ 32.51</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boulder</td>
<td>$ 38.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brookfield, 1st</td>
<td>$ 2,057</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brookfield, 2nd</td>
<td>$ 365*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffalo</td>
<td>$ 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>$ 80.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daytona Beach</td>
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<tr>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>$ 80.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dodge Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edinburg</td>
<td>$ 223.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Farina</td>
<td>$ 6.60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friendship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hebron, 1st</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hopkinton, 1st</td>
<td>$ 1,081.10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hopkinton, 2nd</td>
<td>$ 200.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Independence</td>
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<td>Indianapolis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individuals</td>
<td>$ 45.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Irvington</td>
<td>$ 50*</td>
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<td>Jackson Center</td>
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<td>Kansas City</td>
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<tr>
<td>Little Genesee</td>
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<td>Los Angeles</td>
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<td>Los Angeles, Christ's</td>
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<td>Lost Creek</td>
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<td>Marlboro</td>
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<td>Middle Island</td>
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<tr>
<td>Milton</td>
<td>$ 377*</td>
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<td>Milton Junction</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Auburn</td>
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<td>New York City</td>
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<td>North Loup</td>
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<td>Plainfield</td>
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<td>Putnam County</td>
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<td>Richburg</td>
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<td>Riverside</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roanoke</td>
<td>$ 15.00</td>
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Note: Totals in columns 2 and 3 are rounded to nearest dollar.

Disbursements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget (Designated)</th>
<th>Budget (undesignated)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Funds</td>
<td>$1,779.89</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trape Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bd. of Christian Education</td>
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<td>School of Theology</td>
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<td>Women's Society</td>
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<td>Historical Society</td>
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<td>Ministry of Retirement</td>
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<td>S. D. B. Building</td>
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<td>General Conference</td>
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<td>World Fellowship and Service</td>
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<td>Memorial Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>Balance, July 31</td>
<td>$58.43</td>
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Comparative Figures

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>1956</th>
<th>1955</th>
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<tr>
<td>Receipts in July:</td>
<td>$4,758.43</td>
<td>$711.57</td>
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<tr>
<td>Receipts in 10 mos.:</td>
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<td>Current annual Budget</td>
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<tr>
<td>Current annual Budget</td>
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<td>$38,127.59</td>
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<tr>
<td>Current annual Budget</td>
<td>$6,911.67</td>
<td>$10,768.94</td>
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<tr>
<td>Current annual Budget raised to date</td>
<td>$71.57</td>
<td>$899.14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Portion of budget raised to date</td>
<td>$71.57</td>
<td>$899.14</td>
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Next Year's Conference

Conference will be in the Milton, Wis., area next August. Charles F. Harris of R.D. 1, Bridgeton, N. J., was elected president, serving this year as first vice-president. The emphasis during the year will be on prayer, his theme, "Pray without ceasing — Abound to every good work."

COMING RECORDER ISSUES

A page of Conference pictures was crowded out this time as well as several good articles, especially one by Dr. Victor Burdick, missionary-elect to Nyasaland. Remember to pray for the Leon Langton family flying to Jamaica the middle of September.

New President of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference, Charles F. Harris, head of the science department of Bridgeton High School, Bridgeton, N. J. His theme for the new Conference year: "Pray without ceasing — Abound to every good work."