us his interpretation of an expanded "Program for Extension and Growth." We realize that we are at a crossroads but under his leadership of courage and conviction we must redouble our efforts to let our city know of Seventh Day Baptists and the truths for which they stand. We have a great work to do in Denver. Through our ministration we pray that many may come to know and accept Christ and His Sabbath. — Correspondent.

MILTON JUNCTION, WIS. — About sixty were present October 15 for the party honoring the Rev. Kenneth Smith and family. Farewell messages were given by President Perry Dunn of Milton College, the Rev. A. H. Lambright, representing the local Ministers' Council, and the Rev. Elmo F. Randolph of the Milton Church. A piece of silver and a gift of money were presented to the Smiths by the church. Our best wishes go with them.

We had no services at our church October 12. About 20 of our members were privileged to attend meetings of the North Central Alumni Association at New Auburn, Wis. Pastor Smith preached his final sermon on October 19. The morning service on October 26 was conducted by the Rev. Cecil Dawson of the local Methodist churches. The Rev. John F. Randolph brought us the morning message on November 2. We accepted the invitation of the Milton Church to join with them for morning worship and "Meal of Sharing" on November 9. Our pulpit supply on November 16 was Justin Camenga, a Milton College student who has assisted us in various ways in the past. The Rev. Elmo F. Randolph brought us the message on November 23 when our Lord's Acre projects for the year were dedicated. Deacon Charles Burdick was in charge of the worship service on November 30.

Prayer meetings have been conducted by the laymen during the period in which we are awaiting the arrival of our new pastor, the Rev. Victor Skaggs. Plans have been made for a joint service of the Albion and Milton Junction Churches at Milton Junction on December 7. Mr. Skaggs will be installed as pastor of the two churches at the morning worship service. There will be an afternoon of fellowship following dinner which will be served by the host church. — Correspondent.

Marriages

Price - Hall. — On Sabbath, August 10, 1957, B. Hampton Price of Palatka, Fla., and Leah Mary Hall of Georgetown, Fla., were united in marriage at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. Padgett Hall of Georgetown, by Pastor Clifford A. Beebe.

Births

Brauer. — A daughter, Vicki Lynn, to Alice (Hemminger) and Roger Brauer of Urbana, Ohio, on August 19, 1957.

Burdick. — A daughter, Patricia Ruth, to Robert and Barbara Burdick of Milton, Wis., on Nov. 6, 1957.


Obituaries

Beebe. — Clarence V., son of DeLoss and Helen MacIntire Beebe, was born in Brookfield, N. Y., Sept. 2, 1881, and was killed instantly when struck by an automobile in front of his home at Orange, Conn., Nov. 21, 1957.

For the past several years Mr. and Mrs. Beebe have made their home with their daughter, Mrs. Howard E. Kuehn. Mr. Beebe was a faithful member of the Westerly Church and never failed to send a message to be read at the covenant meeting and attended services when his health and transportation permitted. Besides his wife, Susan Saunders Beebe, and the daughter mentioned, he leaves a son, James D., and six grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Sunday, November 24, with his pastor, the Rev. Charles H. Bond, officiating. Burial was in the Oak Grove Cemetery, Ashaway, R. I. — C. H. B.

Lewis. — Elizabeth Allis, daughter of Jere P. and Farozina St. John Allis, was born in Unadilla Forks, N. Y., May 26, 1876, and died at her home in Plainfield, N. J., Sept. 14, 1957.

When a young child her parents moved to Plainfield, N. J. She was baptized and joined the Seventh Day Baptist Church March 2, 1888. Her love for the church was manifested by her active participation in and generous support of all its interests. She was distinguished for her love of young people.

She was married to Nathan E. Lewis, April 29, 1902. To them were born two sons: Donald Earl, of Ashaway, R. I., and Kenneth Ward, of Scotch Plains, N. J. She is survived by her husband and sons and six grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted at the Memorial Funeral Home, Sept. 18, 1957, by Rev. Roland Bahnson. Interment was in Hillside Cemetery, Plainfield. — E. S.
Star in the East

Almost 2000 years ago wise men from the East who had probably spent long years in contemplation of the stars saw a strange star appear. These men, whose names are only tradition, were privileged in their own day as wise men by the kings of the earth. History has verified that tradition. Wise in their own right, they were led to recognize the significance of that strange star. It led them to the cradle of a King whom they honored with royal gifts and whom they worshiped as one who was greater than a king. Somehow they knew. They were wise.

Today, men from the East are worldily wise men whose minds are remarkably filled with scientific data have succeeded in setting in motion that which appears as a star circling the earth in an established orbit. None can question the wisdom of these men. It must be recognized, however, that their knowledge has limitations which could be removed if they would give heed to the example of the wise men mentioned in the second chapter of Matthew. Unfortunately they live in a vast eastern land where the party is openly hostile to what might be called "Caravans to Bethlehem." They are practically forbidden to look beyond earth-bound satellites or to bow the knee before Him to whom the star of Bethlehem pointed.

Millions of people have seen a strange star in the heavens. They are disturbed and distressed, for it does not seem to be connected in any way with heaven or with peace on earth. There is danger that many insecure people whose thoughts might turn under other circumstances to the star of Bethlehem, will think instead about a little man-made moon carrying a dead dog which at nighttime picks up the reflection of the sun and throws it back to the skywatchers.

We can be wise men in such a time as this. Wisdom, after all, is not so much a matter of scientific knowledge evidenced by astronomical calculations and engineer- ing projects; it is the wisdom of things temporal in the light of things eternal. We can interpret the temporarily disturbing phenomenon of a strange "star" in the heavens as we relate it to Christ. Instead of being thrown into a panic as was Herod of old, we can conclude with the wise men from outside the recognized "church" that now is the time to recognize God's provision for our salvation and security.

We who have wisdom will calm the fears of others "whose hearts fail them for fear," those who forget the natality star of the Wise Men, for they did put their trust in the space beyond our earth. There is no change in the eternal significance of the entrance into the sphere of men's vision of the star of Bethlehem. If fear arises, we should echo the voice of the angels assuring the shepherds that God's message is one of great joy. Now is the time to bow in worship.

Town and City Churches

Three quarters of the churches affiliated with the American Baptist Convention are in town and country places with populations under 10,000. But over half the American Baptist membership lives in cities of 10,000 or more population!

Would someone like to check the situation in your Day Baptist denomination? The best source of information might be the master-mailing list maintained by the Women's Board. There are certainly a large number of nonresident members of village churches living in urban centers.

The problem of the urban church is far different from that of the Day Baptist denomination. The best source of information might be the master-mailing list maintained by the Women's Board. There are certainly a large number of nonresident members of village churches living in urban centers.

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by miles of space. Rather, God is measuring man, particularly those men who scoff at the judgment to come. We may be slightly irritated by this chaff. It would perhaps be better to laugh (as God is sometimes pictured as doing). But while we laugh at the absurdities, let us pray for the people who spread them and those who breathe in such dust.

No educated people can think of an orbiting object sent up from the surface of the earth as the first look into space. Astronomers have been telling us about the immensity of space, lo, these many years, and it has not ruled out our concept of the Ruler of space. In the May 8 *WESTERLY SUN* there was a photograph of the comet Arend-Roland taken by telescope at Mt. Palomar observatory by Dr. George Abell. It was said to be at that time 176 million miles from the earth. When it approached the earth next April, the item stated, it would make a spectacular appearance visible to the naked eye. We have a big God in a planned universe, the immensity of space, the comet Arend-Roland taken by telescope, the item stated, it would make a spectacular appearance visible to the naked eye. We have a big God in a planned universe, the immensity of space, the comet Arend-Roland taken by telescope, the item stated, it would make a spectacular appearance visible to the naked eye.

In the accompanying picture two sisters from a Midwest Sabbathkeeping home are happy with their dolls. We cannot be sure that the dolls are the source of their happiness. Knowing the faith of the mother, we are inclined to think that the source of their smiles lies deeper than the dolls they hold. Gifts bestowed once a year are an expression of love but those whom we really love are made to feel that love almost constantly.

There are some rich gifts that are continuously poured out upon us by a loving heavenly Father. Others come to us in response to prayer in times of need. Still others we receive on a once-in-a-lifetime basis. Salvation, the Scripture says, is the gift of God; it is in this last class. The receiving of that gift, whenever it comes, flavors all the remaining years of life with glowing joy if we stay close to the Giver.

What we celebrate at this season is the anniversary of a gift which, by its very nature, could be presented to the world but once in all history, the gift of God's Son. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16.) The indwelling Spirit is the source of the Christian's joy.

Is it wrong to make our children happy with such large crowns that new ships and planes are now being built to carry the people. A wholesale travel organization, Brownell Tours, of Birming­

\*The Baptist World Congress*

When the Baptist World Congress meets in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1960, such a huge crowd is expected that new ships and planes are now being built to carry the people. A wholesale travel organization, Brownell Tours, of Birming­

\*Children's Happy Faces*

The happiest season of the year is now with us. Christmas time has come to be very largely a time when our thoughts turn to making our children happy. Something is lacking, definitely lacking, if we have no little ones somewhere in the family circle to whom we can give presents. Call it selfish if you will, but it does give us much more joy to give to children than to adults.

The Baptist World Alliance, with which Seventh Day Baptists are affiliated, is interested in encouraging a maximum number of people to attend. It might be an opportune time for some of our people who are financially able to do so to visit some of the God's work carrying on work in our name. Travel will undoubtedly be much more economical in connection with these tours than at other times.
Debey's "nannie," Ethel Kalonga; and we three Parsons. After a stop here and a stop there, a brief call at one mission and then another, and a long dusty ride first through the hills, then down in the plains, we arrived and were greeted by Otrain and his relatives. In the clean, neat home of his brother we were shown our place to sleep, equipped with the necessary aids to comfortable village living.

We had good meetings on Sabbath eve, Sabbath morning, and the following night. Our students who were there took an active part in the services and showed their interest and ability. The Sabbath morning service was especially rewarding as we saw and felt the desire of the people to take the Lord into their hearts. Our burden was great as we prayed with them and tried to give encouragement. Knowing that they would have with them no one older in the faith to give them help after the boys left, we had to give them the most possible at that time. It was interesting to work with people in a place where our churches had not been established, and to see their attitude toward our message. Sabbath afternoon we went out to neighboring villages for service, and found very few Christians among all those present at each place.

On our return Otrain came with us to continue some necessary pastoral work with the Chikanda Church. He had has correspondence with his family and relatives, and was eager to hear from them. Otrain went to The Mission's general secretary, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Barr of Chididi Mission, several miles further south, and had a good time of fellowship with them, and others of their mission.

Giving the Bible Back to the Greeks

The New Testament was written in Greek and its message first went to the world in that language both in spoken and written form during the first centuries of the Christian era. But the Greeks lost the Bible through the centuries as their language underwent changes. The American Mission to the Greeks points out that few modern Greeks can read the Greek New Testament which is found on the desk of every well-educated minister. They must have it taken to them in their present language.

In cooperation with the Million Testaments Campaign of Philadelphia, Pa., the American Mission to the Greeks has established a Modern Greek New Testament which is also used extensively by the American Bible Society.

Christians across America are welcoming a new and unusual type of radio broadcast, "The Voice of Greece" program, heard on several 50,000 watt stations, is a new expository-ministry program sponsored by the American Mission to Greeks, Inc., with headquarters in New York, and featuring the mission's general secretary, Rev. Spiros Zodihates.

"The "Voice of Greece" broadcast has a twofold objective. The first is to bring a true-to-the-Word diet of spiritual food to Christians and to seekers of the truth who are in Christ. The second is to enlist support for the American Mission to Greeks, and its translated teaching program, in every corner of America.

The "Voice of Greece" program will air a story of its own every night, by being a part of the daily news. It will tell stories of men and women who are men and women of faith, as we do it each week. And, it will tell stories of the work of the American Mission to Greeks, and its translated teaching program, in every corner of America.

By Rev. Oswald J. Smith

Nearly two thousand years ago there was born in Bethlehem of Judea a babe whose life was destined to affect countless millions. That babe was Jesus Christ.

The time was ripe for His birth. Roman roads had been built throughout the civilized world in preparation for the feet of His future messengers. The Greek language had become almost universal in readiness for the proclamation of His Gospel.

The people among whom He was born had not had the Bible translated or used and were therefore unable to understand the Gospel. They must have it taken to them in their present language.

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Another Subscription Reminder

Now is the time to write to your friends and relatives. If you are arranging to have the Sabbath Recorder sent to them for the next calendar year — a lasting gift which may be much appreciated and passed on to others. Yet, it cannot be billed later if necessary. Don't let your good intentions wither on the vine. Make your Christmas message Christian by giving a Christian magazine — this one.
There is not much connection between Christmas and Christ for far too many people in America. Santa Claus and commercialism have taken over the holiday. Yet without Christ there is really nothing about which to sing or rejoice. So I would like to suggest that each family plan a worship service for Christmas Eve and experience the true joy of Christmas in your family circle. Of course, each family will differ in its interests and the ages of its members, so you can choose what will be the most appropriate for your family. Here are a few suggestions of the type of things my family enjoys.

The Family Sings Together

Do members of your family sing as they do their tasks around the house? Singing together is an added joy of family sharing. Have each member name a Christmas song and see if he can look up a passage of Scripture to go with it, such as:

Joy to the World - Ps. 98: 4-9.
Hark, the Herald Angels Sing - Luke 2: 13, 14.


It Came upon the Midnight Clear (v. 4) — Isaiah 9: 6, 7.

We Three Kings — Matt. 2: 1-11.

Sing a carol whose words are most familiar to all, such as "Silent Night" or "Away in a Manger." Then perhaps you would like to choose a less familiar song and all learn a stanza or two to be sung from memory. If the tune is not familiar to all, some member of the family could play it through on whatever instrument he plays, before it is sung together.

The Family Story Time

Younger children always enjoy a colored picture, so perhaps the oldest child could find a Christmas picture of the Madonna, or the angels appearing to the shepherds, or a manger, and then tell the Christmas story to the younger. The younger children can participate by telling what they see in the picture. Or perhaps the father would like to read some favorite Christmas story to the family.

The Family Meditation

Luke 2: 11: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Unto you is a personal message. "This day" is the present, and we must confess our sins and accept the Savior before we will really know the blessings of Christmas. Repeat in unison John 3: 16. What means most to us at Christmas time? What presents do we like better, the most expensive, or the thoughtful ones received from loved ones who have given of themselves with their gift? Christ is God's personal gift to us. Is His gift expensive, as it cost Him suffering and death for us? Christmas makes us thankful receivers, and in turn Christmas gladness shines in our hearts when we give to others. We pray that Christmas joy and peace will come to the whole world, as we know that all people belong to God's family.

"Better than the observance of Christmas Day is the idea of keeping Christmas. Are you willing, for example, to forget what you have done for other people and to remember what they have done for you? To put your rights in the background, your duties in the middle distance, and your chances to do a little more than your duty in the foreground?"

"Are you willing to stoop down and consider the needs and desires of little children? To remember the weakness and loneliness of people who are growing old? To stop asking how much your friends love you, and ask yourself whether you love them enough? Are you willing to do these things for a day? Then you can keep Christmas.

"Are you willing to believe that love is the strongest thing in the world — stronger than death — and that the blessed Life which began nineteen hundred years ago is the image and likeness of Eternal Love? Then you can keep Christmas.

"And if you keep it for a day, why not always? But you can never keep it alone." — From "Keeping Christmas" by Henry van Dyke.

The Family Plans Together

What is our response to God for His most precious gift? Do we love, honor, and worship Him? You have remembered your family and friends with gifts this season, but have you forgotten whose birthday we celebrate? Is there "no room in the inn" of our hearts as we busy ourselves with holiday preparations? Let each one of us think of some gift we can make to Jesus, or some way to share our Christmas joy with others. It would be easy to think of doing something special for a close neighbor or friend, so try to think of someone you do not know well, or even do something for someone you have differed with, so someone you may think does not like you very well. Make definite plans to carry out your ideas between Christmas Day and the next Sabbath.

"Hosanna, Master, lo we bring our offerings to Thy throne: Not gold, nor myrrh, nor mortal thing, but hearts to be Thine own."

The Family Prays Together

Ask each member to give a short sentence prayer and close with this litany:

Reader: O God, for the gift of Thy dear Son, whose birth we celebrate this Christmas Day and who suffered death to be our Saviour,

All: We give You grateful praise.

Reader: For His example, and promise to always be with us if we but seek His guidance,

All: We give You grateful praise.

Reader: For love that gives, and love that receives, for family love, and love of family,

All: We give You grateful praise.

Reader: May the spirit of joy be with us all in we do each day, in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION — Sec. Rex E. Zwibel

Christian Higher Education

A special issue of the International Journal of Religious Education which will be published in February, 1958, will deal with the relationship of "Church and College." The idea at the request and with the help of the National Council's Commission on Christian Higher Education. Every pastor and every parent of a child eligible for college will find articles of interest. A copy of this special publication can be purchased for 50¢ from the International Journal of Religious Education, Box 238, Madison Square Station, New York 10, N. Y., or through the Board of Christian Education, Box 15, Alfred Station, N. Y.

Sabbath Truth

(The following is from the foreword and preface of a forthcoming tract called "Sabbath Truth and Their Propagation" by George A. Main.)

It is the self-evident privilege and duty of those who hold some distinguishing belief, considered by them as sufficiently important to justify separate denominational existence, to thoroughly publicize such beliefs, even though such policy may reduce in other spheres their evangelistic efforts.

The Ten Commandments are extolled throughout both the Old and New Testament as the eternal law of Jehovah and His Son. They have always been and still are recognized as the most perfect of all moral codes, with the single except for the Fourth Commandment, which is not always obeyed but which is generally repudiated, being nominally changed by substituting the first day for the specified seventh day of the week.

The average church-member knows little about the origin and history of the religious observance of either the seventh or the first day of the week, generally being satisfied to accept the religious habits, if any, of his parents, denominations, or churches, without question. They are not often enough to ascertain the facts as to the weekly rest-day which
might disclose unpopular or unpleasant findings.

Here are a few of the duties incumbent on all Sabbath believers who wish to share the blessings of obedience with their fellow men:

1. Encourage greater emphasis upon the importance of Sabbath observance.
2. Try to increase interest in all Sabbath facts.
3. There should always be available in some form the principal Sabbath truths, not only the Biblically recorded facts, but also those so marvellously preserved in human history and revealed through natural science.
4. It should be especially stressed that Christianity means "the precepts and doctrines taught by Christ" while upon earth personally, and that He specifically exalted the Law of God and its Sabbath, but definitely warned His followers against the substituting of the traditions of men for the Law of God.
5. Endeavor to develop enthusiasm for Sabbath reform commensurate with the importance of the Sabbath to the welfare and happiness of mankind.
6. Instruct the uninitiated as to where to procure the facts concerning the Sabbath and Sunday and related matters.
7. Give all possible assistance in employing the best methods of teaching and otherwise publicizing Sabbath truths and of arousing all to their vital importance.

JUNIOR QUARTERLY

The Junior Quarterly of Seventh Day Baptist publication is still being printed. Reactions in favor of continuing the publication are coming in. If all our churches would support this endeavor by subscribing to the limit, we might be able to finish the cycle. When the cycle is finished, there will be copies on hand to supply all our Sabbath Schools for the next three-year cycle.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

december 28, 1957

Brothers Through Christ

Lesson Scripture: Philoemen, verses 1-16.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

Religious Liberty and Premarital Pledges

C. Stanley Lowell, a prominent national speaker on the subject of religious liberty, has brought together in an article published in the Southern Baptist Advocate some interesting facts about the prenuptial agreement forced upon non-Catholics who are parties to mixed marriages before Christianization.

If a person is firmly convinced that his particular religious group embraces certain important Bible truths which other groups have failed to understand or accept, he is duty bound to try to get his intended wife as well as others to accept those truths and join his group. If it is the case that no one who has such convictions applies to the Roman Catholic as well as to the Protestant. We should expect a Catholic priest to use all the persuasion possible to gain converts if he thinks his is the one true church. We should expect the Protestant minister to point out to young Catholics those teachings of the Church which, in his opinion, grossly pervert the Gospel. If the matter could be left there, a balance could be achieved and marital bliss could in many cases accompany mixed marriages. However, there does not allow for a solution based on persuasion or equality.

If a Catholic marrying a Protestant is unwilling to force the Protestant to sign the agreement to bring up the children in the Catholic faith, he may face excommunication. If the couple is married by a Protestant clergyman, it is the eyes of the church, not a real, but only an attempted marriage.

Suppose that the Protestant under the almost irresistible compulsion of love, wavers, takes instruction and signs the antenuptial agreement, binding the children to the church — even if the Catholic parent dies. Is there a way of gaining freedom from this vow taken under duress? Legally there is a way out, says Mr. Lowell, who has made a study of it. He quotes case after case that has been tested in the courts.

DECEMBER 16, 1957

The Harvard Law Review states unequivocally that "No prenuptial agreement as to the religious education of children between father and mother, before or after marriage, is binding and it is always open to either parent to change his mind, as it is his privilege to inculcate upon his children those religious principles which for the time being seem best to him." (Quoting Mr. Lowell, "Religion in the Upbringing of Children." Boston University Law Review, Vol XXXV, No. 3, June, 1955.)

(Quoting without comment from Mr. Lowell are the following paragraphs):

Fundamental Right

One reason for the unenforceability of the antenuptial agreement regarding the religious education of children is the constitutional guarantee of freedom of religion. Freedom of religion has as one of its integral principles the right to change one's faith. If I choose a certain faith, that is freedom of religion. But if, having chosen this faith, I am not free to give it up and choose another, then I do not have freedom of religion.

It is conceivable that a person might give free consent that children yet unborn should be brought up in the Roman Catholic faith. It is equally conceivable that this person might later change his mind on the matter. It is basic to his religious thinking as it is to his religious freedom that he be free to make such a change. To try to freeze his religious thinking as it was at the time the agreement was signed is not merely to be unrealistic; it is also to deny the religious freedom which our Constitution guarantees.

Moral Ground

Is there moral dereliction involved in a parent's refusal to keep the Roman Catholic antenuptial agreement? Again the answer is No. The person who signs the agreement after the couple have lived together for years without breaking it, is not morally wrong in persisting in keeping it. He must do as his conscience bids. When one becomes aware of a wrong there is no virtue in continuing the wrong. There is virtue only in repentance and change.

The right to repudiate the antenuptial agreement, further, a right inherent in the nature of the agreement itself. Think of it! A woman signs away her right to the religious training of her children yet not born. Can she really do this? Can she have sufficient understanding of what is involved in such a step to take this step? Can she do it all at the same time?

When the day of awakening comes, as it always comes for the Protestant or the Jew who has been so coerced, there is only one thing to do. Let the two persons involved sit down together and look clear-eyed at the problem which is uniquely their own. Let arrogant clerical counsel be disregarded for the interference it patently is. Let these two people and no others — think the problem through and arrive at their own solution. This is a hard thing; perhaps it is impossible. But there is one thing more impossible — the stand to be taken slavishly upon an agreement that was coercive from the start.

MY NEIGHBOR'S LIGHT

By Lois Fay Powell

When autumn days are mostly gray
And winds are madly howling, madly way,
I stand before my windowpane,
And look for cheer on field or lane.

What glimmers there to meet my sight?
It's just a glimpse of neighbor's light!
A tired, tormented, humble sight,
A comfort on cold winter nights.

I know how good it made me feel,
And for the time being seemed best to keep.
I helped keep it clean and bright.
I'll give my light good care,
If I can.But what a sight to see,
To and fro.

A comfort on cold winter nights,
What a sight to see,
A tired, tormented, humble sight,
A comfort on cold winter nights.
News of Ministers

More exact information of the winter plans of Rev. and Mrs. John Fitz Randolph is now at hand. They left Milton Junction, Wis., in mid-November, planning to stay in Colombo, Ceylon, first of the year. They are not yet in Daytona Beach, Fla., as previously reported. They expect to return home in April.

Dr. Walter E. Hancock, now of Stanberry, Mo., was guest minister at Norroville, Kan., on November 2.

Dr. and Mrs. A. J. C. Bond left Alfred, N. Y., on November 19 to take up winter residence at Daytona Beach.

James M. Mitchell requests publication of a new address, 808 N. 22nd St., McAllen, Tex.

Monte Slusher was installed as student pastor of the Jackson Center, Ohio, Church on November 30. Leland Davis, who spent the Thanksgiving weekend in his home church there, assisted in the installation ceremonies. Mr. Slusher, soon to be released from the Air Force, will pursue studies at a nearby university under the G.I. Bill while serving the church.

Four of our ministers recently accepted the invitation of the Tract Board to edit the special issues of the Sabbath Recorder which are scheduled to appear in February, May, August, and November, 1958. They are: Loyd F. Hurley, Alton L. Wheeler, Victor W. Skaggs, and Edgar F. Wheeler

It is expected that Grover C. Brissay, headmaster of Crandall High School in Kingston, Jamaica, will be ordained to the Gospel ministry at Washington, D. C., Sabbath morning, December 21. A council has been called for that purpose by his home church. Invitations to participate were extended to Jersey churches and a number of denominational leaders.

Roger Cazzoli of Milan, Italy, now a member of the Mill Yard Church in London, hopes to go to Nigeria soon to work for the Seventh Day Baptist cause. A visitor's visa (3 months), which can probably be made permanent, has been granted. The last letter dated December 4. There remains one financial problem to be worked out with his immigration office at Lagos, Nigeria. Mr. Cazzoli writes that he is now back at Nogent, France, and expects to spend Christmas there with Rev. James McGeachy in London. He was recently accepted as an associate member of the Evangelical Preachers' Association, a 61-year-old fellowship located in England. Although his primary interest is in preaching the Gospel, his employment will be as a headmaster of a new "teachers training college" with a very modest salary paid by the government. Approval of this "college" was arranged for by a native Seventh Day Baptist educator, Rev. T. Nwankwo.

Word just received from Los Angeles indicates that a Southern Baptist minister and his wife had decided to join the local Seventh Day Baptist Church. Other ministers in various states and one or two foreign countries are seeking membership with us or asking to work along with us as the Lord leads in forming new churches.

Further news of two or more of our ministers may be found in the New Year's number of "Births" in this or previous issues.

The Salem Herald of December 5 announced a farewell church party for Rev. C. Rex Burdick and family on December 15 and stated that no replacement for him was yet announced. As previously noted, Rev. C. Rex Burdick and family are members of the Seventh Church, N. Y., Church at the end of this month.

PHILIPPIANS 4: 8

By Irene Hulett

The more of beauty and of truth
Is welcomed to our hearts each day
When life is young, receptive, strong,
Responsive, free, and gay.

Into our thoughts will come again
After life's active days are o'er
To comfort, as we travel down
Into our thoughts will come again
After life's active days are o'er
To comfort, as we travel down

To comfort, as we travel down
Toward life's inevitable shore.
And maybe on the other side
After we've safely crossed the tide
Sweet echoes of such memories
May yet with us abide;
To mingle with the joyful songs
Of those who have gone on before,
That heavenly host of theme
Who praise our God forevermore.

DECEMBER 16, 1957

Personal Contact


Once again the Advent season is upon us, and the editor sends his greetings and good wishes to all whose hands our magazine falls. Let those who are among us be ministering to young and old, and the in-betweens, make the most of the season, with its not another "Word became flesh," and dwelt among men.

The verb, by the way, is not without doctrinal importance. The A.V., under the influence of the Latin Verbum factum est, translated "Word was made flesh" instead of "Word became flesh." Anyhow, not to labor that point here, it is worth noting the various ways in which a man may express himself. A musician expresses himself through his music, an artist through his buildings, an author through his canvases. But while one may listen to an oratorio, or gaze at some noble edifice, or feast one's eyes on a painting, one does not thereby know the composer, the architect, or the painter. The personal contact: the one responsible must speak, declaring his mind in intelligible language. So God, for all that He is behind the music of the spheres, and is the one who built all things, and paints the wayside flower, is not thereby really known: He must speak to us in a language that we understand. This He has done, in the person of His Son Jesus Christ (Heb. 1: 1-2). The Eternal Word took our human nature at Bethlehem, and in "the likeness of sinful flesh" became a sacrifice for sin at Calvary. So His earthly life linked the cradle with the cross.

May the Lord bless the telling once again of "the old, old story of Jesus and His love."

If we could only express ourselves without heat, but with truth, so that men would say, "Yes that is true," without stopping to attribute it to Northern, or Southern, or "pacifist" bias, how jolly that would be. Paul S. Burdick.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

In 1955, according to the Council of State Governments, almost 60% of our entire population was living in 172 metropolitan areas located in 42 states and the District of Columbia. These ninety-five million metropolitan residents live in an area that covers only 7% of the entire territory of the United States. Furthermore, this human concentration continues — between 1955 and 1957, our 12 million population rise occurred in the metropolitan areas. — Economic Review.

American Leprosy Missions gives this report from workers in Hong Kong, China: "In a country where only a few years ago leprosy patients were caught in large nets and burned to death, a school received peacefully and with friendliness two former patients of the Hay Ling Chau Leprosarium in Hong Kong. The school is a short-term Bible school in the New Territories of Hong Kong, and the new students are two crippled, negative patients, who, with a new will, will be used to their advantage. The American Leprosy Missions gives this a country where only a few years ago leprosy patients were caught in large nets and burned to death, a school received peacefully and with friendliness two former patients of the Hay Ling Chau, model sanitorium under the direction of the Mission to Leppers (London)."

Prominent People

One of the prominent Seventh Day Baptists of the Washington, D. C., Church, the Honorable Jennings Randolph, was chosen as co-host of the radio broadcast forwards Luncheon held at the Sheraton Park Hotel Friday noon, November 15. This luncheon was sponsored by the Department of Radio and Television of the Council of Churches, National Capital Area. As the name suggests, the purpose was to recognize some of the nation's most influential people. Many noted artists of radio, television, screen, and stage were among the guests present. Under Miss Ella F. Harlee, director, this Washington Council has presented 2,000 programs a year, the largest volume of religious broadcasts of any community in the country. Twenty volunteer and professional speakers were given awards at the luncheon. The commercial value of these 2,000 programs is estimated at $500,000.
Christmas Thoughts

What changes are taking place in your mind and in the minds of your friends of teen-age in regard to Christmas? Have you stopped to think about it? How much have they changed the Christmas idea? In spite of all the growth in your thinking will you suddenly become a child again at Christmas time and think only of what you are going to get?

On the other hand, are you going to let yourself continue in the all-too-common attitude of not appreciating what your parents lovingly provide for you (if you have had that attitude)? Do you have a tendency to look at those extra clothes, those desired gifts as just what you have a right to expect from your father and mother?

These questions are just to stimulate your thinking. You have been doing a lot of thinking one way or another during the year. Keep it up. Don't stop just before Christmas. It might be growing a lot, keep growing up right through this happy season. There have been some unpleasant moments during the year, perhaps when you and your parents did not quite agree on such things as clothing, dates, privileges, or even church attendance. How about your parents now? Probably right now you are buying some little presents for them and have forgotten the times of disagreement.

Let's ask another question. Your folks will appreciate this one. Do you think that your parents show some evidence of having become a little more mature during the past few months in their attitude toward the problems of their offspring? If so, it may be a sign that you, too, are growing up.

Has Christmas lost some of its glamour? Are you beginning to think much more about giving than receiving? Is it definitely becoming more Christian as you think more clearly about it? Does Christ become more central as the childhood attitudes toward Christmas fade away? Isn't it wonderful that God was able to find a way to our hearts by sending His Son to be born of a virgin and to give His life for us?

THE SABBATH RECORDER

Gifts to the Lord's Work

December is not a dead-line month for church and denominational giving but it is for income tax credit. Those of us who are keeping account of percentages of income given for benevolent purposes in order to do our best for the Lord and current Income Tax provisions, would do well to make sure before the end of the year that our gifts are as large as we think they are.

Remorse will dampen the joy of the new year for some well-meaning Christians if they find out too late that they could have given more to missions and other Christian work without sacrifice. We have an obligation to pay our taxes to the government, to be sure; but if our records reveal that we have a choice between paying a certain amount or giving a certain amount to Christian work, should we not choose the latter?

The Internal Revenue Department allows up to 20 per cent deductions for such gifts before taxable income is figured. (Philanthropists may even figure as high as 60 per cent.) In some cases a larger amount given away changes the income tax bracket. Nearly everyone paying Withholding Tax has it figured on the basis of 20 per cent of his income. Some, of course, get money back on account of allowable deductions. Others, whose income is just a little higher, have to pay at a higher rate.

In this case it would be to his advantage for the person in the various brackets to reduce his adjusted income and lower the rate of tax. If one finds it possible to give up to 20 per cent instead of less, it will not cost him the full amount of that extra giving.

The figuring and the giving must be done before the end of the year. If you wish to make the most of this opportunity accounts carefully, the next best thing is to write a much larger check than usual and put it in the Christmas offering or mail it to Our World Mission treasurer, Olin C. Davis, Verona, N. Y. — Editor.
DODGE CENTER, MINN. — On November 27 our church was host to the community churches for the annual Union Thanksgiving Service. Pastor Kenneth B. Van Horn led in the devotions with the assistance of the Methodist and Congregational ministers. Norman Clapper of our church sang, "My Prayer," and "The Attorney." The Assembly of God minister gave a spiritual message on the Thanksgiving theme, directly applicable to the heart of each person present.

We lay members wish to share a blessing with anyone who are in our vicinity. We welcome you and urge you to attend our worship services any Sabbath day. You will experience pleasure from fellowship with us, we hope. But greater than that will experience pleasure from fellowship with any who are in our vicinity. We wish to share His presence with any who desire Him. — Our Mission.

Though some may fail to admit this need of a Savior who can supply all needs, we believe it is a great necessity in all human hearts. We wish to share His presence with any who desire Him. — Correspondent.

Obituaries

Parker. — Leon J., only son of Stephen and Ethel Parker, was born in Otsego, N. Y., Aug. 27, 1878, and died at his home in Truxton, N. Y., Nov. 4, 1957. He was educated in De Ruyter Training Class and taught school in the surrounding communities and later became a farmer. On New Year's Day, 1902, he married Maud Elinor Stevens. To this union were born two sons, Harry, who resides in Truxton, and Walter of Cincinatus, N. Y. His wife preceded him in death 10 years ago. He was baptized and joined the De Ruyter Church early in life and continued a faithful member, having attended church the Sabbath before he passed to his heavenly home and reward. He was elected to the office of deacon many years ago, and also served as trustee. Surviving besides his sons are 4 grandchildren and a great-granddaughter. Farewell services were held in the De Ruyter Church, conducted by his pastor, Charles D. Swing. Burial was in Hillcrest Cemetery. — C. D. Sisson.

Mrs. Warren Brannon, Rt. 1, Freeville, N. Y., on November 17, 1957. Burrows. — A daughter, Connie J., to Mr. and Mrs. Arvis Burrows of Cuba, N. Y.


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