George Bonser, and Mrs. Leslie Langworthy were chairmen for the social. The Junior C. E. provided home-made candy for a candy sale. Following the dinner, the group was shown two color films by Wayne Van Horn, program chairman.

At the Easter Sabbath morning service the Junior Choir sang an anthem, "Fairest Lord Jesus," the first of their two-part selections from music newly acquired.

A talent show was given on the evening after the Sabbath, April 3, to raise money for a centennial float in honor of the organization of our church in 1858. Plans are being made to enter the float in the parade of the annual "Ag Day" celebration.

The talent show instigated by our Sabbath School superintendent, Claston Bond, which included both sacred and secular selections, was well received.

Orchestractions to accompany the hymns in our hymnal are being made available to individuals, especially the younger members, in the hope of organizing a Sabbath School orchestra. Many of the young people now play instruments and can participate in such an activity with pleasure, using their talents to glorify God.

The Harry Bird family is back in the church and Sabbath School after spending the winter months in Edinburg, Texas. We know spring is officially here with the return of the Birds.

We, together with the Denver Church, have recently voted to join the Colorado Council of Churches. Herbert Wheeler is chairman of the Publicity Division of the Boulder Council of Churches for the coming year.

Again this year we gave a dinner in appreciation of the schoolteachers of our children. The Rev. Kenneth Smith of Denver spoke and showed pictures of his year in Scotland. Several teachers and members of their families representing six schools attended.

Pastor Clarke, the Rev. Loyal Hurley, and Paul Hummel recently spent Friday evening and Sabbath day in western Nebraska contacting members and friends of the church.

On Sabbath, April 12, we enjoyed the fellowship of a potluck dinner after morning services, and in the afternoon we had the privilege of hearing Mr. and Mrs. Charles Riddle, Presbyterian missionaries on furlough from North India. Their comments and slides of various aspects of life brought a clearer picture of the challenge that missionaries face. Their native costumes added interest.

Friends will be thankful to hear that Mrs. Erlo E. Sutton is at home and progressing slowly from serious major surgery.

—Correspondent.

Accessions

By Baptism
Mary Elizabeth Fair

By Letter
Mary Elizabeth Lewis
Nancy Lewis
Mrs. Mary (Bond) Lewis
Donald E. Lewis

By Testimony (Associate):
Mrs. Honor (Whitford) Owens

Marriages

Harris-Gray. — John Lind Harris, son of Deacon and Mrs. Charles F. Harris, of Shiloh, N. J., and Lucy Dawn Gray, daughter of Deacon and Mrs. Don V. Gray, Milton, Wis., were united in marriage at the Seventh Day Baptist Church, Lost Creek, W. Va., on Sabbath, April 5, 1958, by the Rev. Duane L. Davis. They will make their home at 61 Oak Street, Salem, W. Va., where both are students at Salem College.

Obituaries

Wright. — Art, son of Robert and Mary Williams Wright, was born in Gilmer County, W. Va., March 15, 1893, and died at Weston, W. Va., March 26, 1958.

Mr. Wright made his home with his sister, in the valley below the Roanoke Seventh Day Baptist Church, where he was a loyal and faithful friend of the church. Survivors include two sisters, Mrs. Ellis McDonald, of Roanoke and Mrs. Nora Stout, of Cairo, W. Va., and one brother, Urban, of Baltimore, Md.

Memorial services were conducted on Sabbath afternoon, March 29, by his pastor, the Rev. Duane L. Davis, and burial was in Mitchell Cemetery at Roanoke.

— D. L. D.
ENCOURAGING SIGNS

There are signs of spiritual growth in the Seventh Day Baptist denomination. How extensive that this alleged growth will continue is an interesting question. Spiritual growth does not necessarily yield itself to statistical evaluation. However, several signs of such growth which many profess to see could be tabulated.

The giving of more money by a few individuals is not a very sure sign and cannot be considered as an increased spirituality, but it is general and substantial in many churches it indicates something. It could be attributed to greater prosperity with consequent ability to give more. It could result from more widespread information as to the needs and more adequate budget promotion. Again, the new terminology and stewardship responsibility may be growing, or the commendable practice of tithing.

More money is being given this year by Seventh Day Baptists to local and denominational work. Is the increase great enough and sufficiently widespread to make sure that there is a general upswing of spirituality among our people, or is it due to one or more of the above causes? We would like to think that it is deeper than these surface things. This we know — that any great increase in giving comes because hearts have been touched. Peep by the over-all picture of the giving of our people is not as important as the experience of each one. If we have given more to Our World Mission is it, or is it in the fact, because somewhat our spirituality has grown? There is a relation between the vigor of our faith and our willingness to contribute. Can we joyfully say in our own hearts that we have given more because we love the Lord more? We hope so.

Many who are in positions of leadership profess to see such a growth in spirituality. The factors contributing to it may be several. The current emphasis on our distinctive beliefs may be either cause or effect. The world situation, the uncertainty of temporal things, the mass back-to-God movement, an awakened leadership, the presence of consecrated missionaries among us, the effective voice of the printed page — all these may have contributed much and may yet contribute more to the encouraging signs. If the reader has failed to see all these in his locality, with this alleged deepening of spirituality, it is hoped that he can rejoice with those in other places who do see it and that he will do his best to make it true in his home church also.

MOTHER'S DAY AND FAMILY WEEK

This issue contains more than the usual emphasis on family worship and family relationships in which the mother is often the determining influence. The editor, frankly, would prefer to speak in terms of Mother's Day rather than Family Week although he well recognizes that we need to stress the responsibility of all the members of the family to make the home Christian.

Mother's Day has a good history and a high degree of sentimentality. When taken at their best we are loathe to part with either of them or to call the second Sabbath of May (as it is on our denominational calendar) "The Festival of the Christian Home."

It remains to be seen whether or not the new emphasis on family worship and family relationships can be supported or is it due to one or more of the above influences? Is the increase great and widespread? Is it due to the above mentioned programs, or is it due to the increase of the number of families in the church? Has the growth been due to the new terminology and the commendable practice of tithing?

More money is being given this year by Seventh Day Baptists to local and denominational work. Is the increase great enough and sufficiently widespread to make sure that there is a general upswing of spirituality among our people, or is it due to one or more of the above causes? We would like to think that it is deeper than these surface things. This we know — that any great increase in giving comes because hearts have been touched. Peep by the over-all picture of the giving of our people is not as important as the experience of each one. If we have given more to Our World Mission is it, or is it in the fact, because somewhat our spirituality has grown? There is a relation between the vigor of our faith and our willingness to contribute. Can we joyfully say in our own hearts that we have given more because we love the Lord more? We hope so.

The board of Christian Education with its Youth Work Department is constantly planning the training of young people in the camp programs and organizing youth into local, associational, denominational, and interdenominational work activities of various kinds.

The Women's Board enlists and provides financial assistance for young people, particularly girls, who might be leaving home during the summer to conduct Vacation Bible Schools. Other projects of this board for the training and using of youth at home and abroad are commendable.

The Tract Board also seeks to enlist youth in tract distribution and, at the present time, in getting the special issues of the Sabbath Recorder into the hands of as many people as possible. It also seeks to produce literature which will strengthen and challenge youth.

The other principal board (Missionary) annually tries to put on the field an evangelistic quartet composed of college youth people who have the qualifications for such work. Although this involves only a limited number, the very existence of such a quartet is a continuing challenge to those who might, in a few years, become qualified for such service.

Far more important in terms of the total number of young people used than the above-mentioned board programs is the Christian work sponsored by the local churches in their own training and outreach.
activities, Sabbath School, Vacation Bible School, camps, etc. One pastor reports that his high school age youth have requested the opportunity of conducting the Sabbath morning worship service, not once a year but once each quarter. We would not forget to mention the physical labor of some of our youth in church and camp building, of which there are several examples.

Ecumenical Youth Projects

There are many levels and echelons of interdenominational activity open to youth. In areas where Christian Endeavor is strong the contributions that our young people can make are many and varied. Many other united youth programs present challenging fields of service. Several who are well known in our churches have been encouraged by local funds to engage in ecumenical work camps in Europe. The opportunities for physical service are now being widened to include many projects in this country as well as abroad. Follow­port­of work that will be done by volunteers this summer.

In North Carolina’s rolling Blue Ridge hills, in South Dakota’s “bad lands” and on New York’s vast farm acres, hundreds of Christian young people who have never met before will be working together this summer and paying for the privilege. Other “hammer and shovel enthusiasts” in dungarees will be repairing a Protestant center in California and digging a Protestant center in California and digging a canyon. New York’s rolling Blue Ridge hills, in South Dakota’s “bad lands” and on New York’s vast farm acres, hundreds of Christian young people who have never met before will be working together this summer and paying for the privilege. Other “hammer and shovel enthusiasts” in dungarees will be repairing a Protestant center in California and digging a Protestant center in California and digging a canyon.

SPECIAL ISSUE NEXT WEEK

The much-heralded and long-awaited special issue, the second of the year, will replace our regular issue next week. It is an added service to subscribers at no extra cost. It will be printed in color and will have 24 pages instead of 16. It is designed primarily as hand-out literature for evangelistic purposes.

If we fail to get extra copies for that purpose we will miss an opportunity to bring a blessing to such people as may be looking to us for just this sort of thing. If your order is not yet submitted through your local church, write to the Sabbath Recorder at once. It may be that we can still supply your need. You may secure 10 copies for $1. Do not hesitate to order for future distribution in case you cannot distribute them all at once. The price in lots of 100 is $8.50.

The title sentences of the principal articles in the May special issue are as follows:

1. The wisest of all choices is that of putting Christ first in everything! For if you live for everything else, you will have an inevitable influence on others.
2. As you face life, remember only Christ can save!
3. Emptied of sin and self, we should be filled with the Holy Spirit.
4. Yielding to God should influence your choice of a lifestyle.
5. To “stand fast in the faith,” we need convictions.
7. If your order is not yet submitted through your local church, write to the Sabbath Recorder at once.
8. Putting Christ first may lead to the call to “full-time” service.
10. A missionary nurse observes that “life is a tender thing.”
11. An educator tells of the testimony of a teacher.
12. Everyone should share in witnessing for Christ.
13. Giving one tenth is more than a financial reckoning, for tithing is a spiritual experience.
14. As Lord of our lives, Christ is “Lord of the Sabbath.”

SABBATH RECORDER

President's Column

Baptist Distinctives:
Believer’s Baptism

Believing that the Christian experience is an individual experience and that one’s relationship to God has but one intermediary, who is Jesus Christ, it is a Baptist belief that the one who takes Christ as his Savior must do so of his own volition. This means that he must have reached an age of decision for himself. He is conscious of a need in his life and of Christ’s fulfillment of that need.

One of the first acts of a Christian, following his belief in Christ as the Son of God and Savior of mankind, is to ask for baptism according to the commandment of Christ (Matt. 28:19-20).

Such baptism presumes a knowledge of God, a recognition of one’s own sin, and of the way of salvation offered through Christ. It is symbolic of death to sin as one goes under the water and of a dedication to a new way of life as one comes up out of the water. It is a person’s choice and his testimony; I renounce the way of sin; I seek cleansing from my past in baptism; having accepted Christ as my Savior, I will seek to follow in the way of life that He has shown.

Church membership usually follows baptism. As one joins the church it is his right and responsibility to do his best in making the witness of the church the greatest witness possible for Christ and His Kingdom.

15. God answers prayer.
16. Parents, what of our children — dare they follow in our steps?
17. In the pursuit of peace of mind, remember worry is a self-imposed torment.

General Conference Planning Committee Meets

By Mrs. R. T. Fetherston

Present at the two-day meeting of the General Conference Planning Committee held in the denominational building in Plainfield, N. J., were all members of the committee and the president of Conference, as follows: Rev. Rex E. Ziesel, Alfred Station, N. Y., executive secretary of the Board of Christian Education; Rev. Everett T. Harris, Westerly, R. I., corresponding secretary of the Missionary Board; Rev. Leon M. Malby, Plainfield, N. J., executive secretary of the Tract Board; Mrs. A. Russell Maxson, Battle Creek, Mich., president of the Women’s Board; Rev. R. T. Fetherston, Battle Creek, Mich., executive secretary of General Conference; Rev. Earl Cruzan, Adams Center, N. Y., president of General Conference. Franklin A. Langworthy, Plainfield, president of the Tract Board, was present at two sessions, and the Rev. C. Harmon Dickinson attended part of one session and reported on the work of the Sabbath Promotion Committee of the Tract Board of which he is chairman.

Detailed reports of work in progress and of contemplated projects of the various boards were heard and discussed. Areas of work were found where specific things might be done by a board to assist and further the work of another board. A number of the specific undertakings discussed have already been reported in the Sabbath Recorder and in the World Mission news bulletin supplements, and further reports will be made as work progresses.

Plans for the meetings of General Conference to be held in Covina, California, August 11-16, were outlined by the Conference president with opportunity for the board secretaries to discuss in detail
their areas of responsibility as well as to get a comprehensive view of the total program.

Correspondence was read from Mrs. Rolla Maxson, Madison, Edgerton, Wis., who at the request of the executive secretary of General Conference has agreed to supervise a nationwide news coverage project for Seventh-day Baptists. The undertaking should do much to put the name of our denomination before the public. The undertaking is one of considerable proportions and requires the co-operation of many persons. Mrs. Maxson is making real progress in the organization of the details necessary to the success of the project.

Considerable time was given to the discussion of how the efforts and work of the total program of our General Conference might be better co-ordinated so that in future meetings of the committee, as representing the board in specific areas of the work of the denomination, would continue to do his utmost to feel the pulse of the thinking and be aware of the wishes of our people. A real effort will be made to set up somewhat longer-range programs of work by each board so that future meetings of the committee consideration may be given as to where emphases of endeavor might be attempted for certain periods of time through combined efforts of all the boards.

Sufficient time is being held open for a very short meeting of the committee just prior to Convention in California, but the next future, Mrs. Maxson will probably be held in Alfred, N. Y., some time during the week of October 12, 1958.

Annual Meeting of Historical Society

The Postponed Annual Meeting of the Seventh Day Baptist Historical Society will be held in the Seventh Day Baptist Building, 510 Watchung Ave., Plainfield, N. J., on Sunday, May 18, 1958, at 10:00 A.M., presiding:

Albert N. Rogers, President,
Frederik J. Bakker, Secretary.

MISSIONS — Sec. Everett T. Harris

NyasaLand News

A recently received letter from the Rev. David Pearson expresses the joy of the mission staff in the very strong probability of the help of Miss Rosemary Massey from Auckland, New Zealand, to Makapwa Mission, Nyasaland, to offer her services as a teacher in the mission schools. If present, rather tentative, plans work out so that Miss Hare may arrive there during the coming summer months.

Mrs. Pearson writes, "We are happy about Rosemary. She will truly be a help. I think it would be better for her and help us too, of course, if she could get here at least several weeks before opening of school (early in October) so, she could get acquainted and begin the school year as principal."

Miss Hare has written, "It was with a view to missionary service that I entered Training College (after our visit to U. S. A.) and gained my teacher's certificate. As you know, my teaching experience is not very wide but with it I offer a consecrated and willing heart for the Lord's service in Nyasaland."

Dr. Victor Burdick Reports

The quarterly report of Dr. Victor Burdick for the first quarter of the year as in the past shows him to be a very busy man. The average number of new cases coming to him daily for treatment is 30 and the average return cases is 100. Over a dozen major surgery operations were performed. Usually major surgery is performed at Malamulo Hospital, 40 miles distant. Dr. Burdick teaches classes on medical subjects for dressers, four per week. In addition he reports having given assistance in evangelistic services in Pastor Goman's area in January and in Pastor Mwango's area, March 12-15.

He expresses his hope that plans may move along for the building of a hospital at Makapwa. They are under consideration by the Missionary Board, prepared by Dr. Burdick and a blueprint of proposed floor plans as drawn up by Albyn Mackintosh.

In a letter to the doctors of this country Dr. Burdick writes: "Our hospital assistant now lives in his new house. It's a four-room, undried-brick, whitewashed house 33' by 23', with cement tile roof. He is now only half-a-stone's throw from the dispensary, which is convenient for all concerned.

"We've started the foundation for another new house, for the midwives. Each one will have a two-room 'suite,' by 10'. Extra rooms are planned for midwifery students. We have to open a Midwifery School in September.

"The Missionary Board has been permitted to release part of a reserve fund, for the China Mission Hospital, for use here. The government will match that. If all goes well, we may begin excavating late this year.

"Before long, we'll need to build a new electric plant for the growing medical needs. The present Mission generator is working at top load now. Water supply will be another problem. Unfortunately these projects are not considered 'strictly medical expansion,' and do not rate government assistance."

Strengthening Faith and Giving Encouragement

Our pastors and leaders in Jamaica have been experiencing a strengthening of faith by participation in the 'Spiritual Retreat' held at Maiden Hall, April 7-10, 1958.

Miss Wells, in letter dated April 11, writes regarding this retreat: "Arrived back in town from 'Spiritual Retreat' at Maiden Hall yesterday afternoon about 3:30. Rode in the Volkswagen with Pastor Lawton and several others. Twas packed going both ways and I feel the choice of Father for the opportunity to come from Fouke on April 21 they write: 'We've having a wonderful time and the Lord has brought us along our way in good time without too much fatigue. Now we have a couple of days to catch up.' Under date of April 24 they write: "We are now in Little Rock having a very nice stay with the Seagers. We thank our Father for the opportunity to visit our various churches and to meet the people. We transported food, cots, mattresses, and other luggage for the retreat as well as people and their own personal luggage. I took lots of pictures and hope they come out fine."

"The retreat was a real blessing. We studied through the Book of St. John together and shared thoughts. There were times of question asking by leaders and conference officers. Sessions were held in the chapel with meals and sleeping in the house. Mrs. Smellie supervised the running of the house."

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for May 17, 1958


SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

for May 24, 1958

Living by God's Laws

On Ascension Day, our Lord left His earthly ministry in the hands of those few it all began, when the disciples, who at the moment were faltering and unsure of what to do. Jesus pulled them to attention with a few words of encouragement: "Ye shall receive power when the Holy Spirit is come upon you." (Acts 1:8, RSV) On that first Ascension Day Jesus promised His followers that there would be a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The record proves it happened just ten days later as the Christian community of Jerusalem was gathered together for prayer and worship.

The Holy Spirit descended upon them and they were renewed and revitalized, filled with power to proclaim God's Word with persuasive conviction that Jesus was God's Christ, and that His Spirit was with them. From that moment things began to happen and the Church lived in the certainty that it was filled with the Holy Spirit who empowered the members and gave them ability to heal and cast out demons, directed them in the appointment of leaders, initiated missionary enterprise, and sustained them in persecution.

It is the Spirit of the Lord carried those at Pentecost, especially Peter and Stephen, beyond themselves. They didn't know that they could do what they did. But by the help of the Holy Spirit, Peter had an eloquence he had not shown before, and Stephen spoke our boldly and prayed for those who stoned him.

We declare and teach that on Pentecost the Church was born. This in a sense is true, although the foundations of the Church had been built long before. But this was the real, primary, and enduring result of the Spirit's coming. The power of the Spirit was manifested in the forming of the Church, which is "holy because the Holy Spirit dwells in it."

The Church is a unique society because it shares a new and common life and love.

By James W. Kennedy, D.D.

Pentecost

The Church is one in Christ, it continues steadfastly in the apostles' teaching and in the fellowship, and in the breaking of bread. With understanding so all men can hear in their own "tongues the wonderful works of God." God has sent the life-energy of the Eternal flowing through the fellowship into the lives of the believers. That is the meaning of the power of the Spirit. By this Spirit men and women become reconciled to God and are made new creatures. But the members of the fellowship must interact and cooperate in a loving, and the need for it as the Church of God's people, as united in the spirit of Jesus, is a mystery, spoke truly when she said: "Ye shall receive power."

Pentecost may never be repeated in us in the same way as recorded in the Acts, but through the fellowship (the koinonia) we shall receive installment of His power, an "earnest of the Spirit," and shall be helped to grow in wisdom, in faith, and in in witness to whatever we have received of this power.

Dorothy Sayers, who turned from creating mysteries to penetrating a greater mystery, spoke truly when she said: "The average church member is about as well equipped to do battle on fundamentals with a humanist as he is to convert an agnostic as a boy with a pea shooter facing a fanfare of machine guns."

I have often been in this situation, when I have had to bear a witness for Christ. The only remedy is to prepare by the help of God's Holy Spirit to be "ready always to give in answer a reason for the hope that is in you."

The only way anyone can be theologially and intellectually adequate is by the power of the Holy Ghost for He shall lead you into all truth. The disciples received power only after long apprenticeship under Christ, the acceptance of His Lordship and the continuing practice of teaching and doing. ll a life can recall a lack of concentration on God's Holy Word, obedience of our Lord's commands, and to an undisciplined life. But the exceptions to the rule are rare in our culture.

The Holy Spirit helps make us whole and complete, filling the chinks in our spiritual armor, correcting defects in our character, solidifying our belief into one unassailable bulwark. The Holy Spirit "shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." And this is done within the fellowship, the koinonia, which is a new name for a new thing, "communing with others in community of life," because the Holy Ghost dwells in it and sanctifies (makes whole; completes) its members. The power of the Spirit was manifested first in the experience of this company of men and women concentrating on Jesus' promise, "Ye shall receive power."

The power of the Holy Ghost is the greatest single fact in religious history. How did they prepare to receive Him? How do we? This man wanted the power to work miracles. But the meaning of "power" in this context is the power of God within mediated to others through us.

The big word is concentration. The discipline of getting a good foundation training for spiritual battle demands it. The very act of love toward others demands it.

Whatever interpretation we may give to the prophetic outpouring of the Spirit and the ecstatic speaking in tongues or strange languages, it seems certain that with one accord, "as one body" the Church of God's people, organized men and women, who became channels for God's voice without much arguing about its nature or splitting hairs about doctrine with "diversities of gifts but the same Spirit."

The Spirit comes as a blessed disturbance to people as individuals and as groups. The predictions of the disciples that were thought to be fixed are changed, not merely because "those who would turn the world upside down have come," but because the "free, life-renewing Spirit invaded this world from outside," and men resisted it no longer.

James Thurber has done us a great service in writing his story of "The Wonderful O." He attempts to show what would happen if just one vowel, O, was removed from our equipment for speaking, writing, and singing what is on our minds. Even God would go. In this rather ridiculous little story, Thurber points out how the elimination of one key letter — "O" — abolishing of everything that is called by a name with an O in it, O-bearing books and places and people — can result in the same confusion of speaking as at Pentecost as the disciples "began to speak with
other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

In the language of religion the O is the union of the family. As we begin to end, symbolizing the perfection of God and therefore essential for Christian life and speech. For us the Holy Spirit has reserved the word God among the languages.

With the O restored, “We do hear spoken in our tongues the wonderful works of God.” The Spirit is to the divine life what food is to physical human life, essential for activity, thought, and personal relationships. It is a continually vitalizing and energizing force, to which the Apostle Paul assigns the attributes of personality because the effects of His presence correspond so widely and so closely to what is known of self-consciousness and self-direction of Christ. But it doesn’t come automatically. It comes only by a personal surrender of will and way to Him.

“At the Tower of Babel all the tongues were confounded, and as a result men could no longer understand one another as they all spoke different languages.” This confusion is now brought to an end by the language of God, which is universal and intelligible, and the only means of mutual understanding among men. And the Church is the place where the miracle of God’s saving work.”

When we receive God’s help for doing it; when we are willing to allow God’s spark to ignite us; then the power will be received “not many days hence.”

Father nodded. “And all are put here for the enjoyment of man and beast.”

“Everything was very quiet now with only the hushed chirp of a sleepy bird, and the soft splash of some water creature moving.”

“Think of people who sit in dark, stuffy movie theaters and think they could be enjoying places like this,” said Margaret at last.

“Think of folks seeing all this every day and never once thinking of the One who made it,” went on father.

“Think of those who do think of the Creator, but do not take the time to even say ‘thank you,’” mother softly finished.

Then, for a minute, no one said anything at all, at least not out loud. Each one was telling God, very quietly, how thankful they was that God had planted this garden.

Hymn: “For the Beauty of the Earth”

Conversation suggestions:
1. What is the very best time our family ever had? Let each one recall some happy time and tell why he thinks of it as the “best.”
2. Would it be a holiday, a short outing, guests, celebrations, a new home, working or playing together, reunion of the family after separation, etc.?
3. Have we ever had good times out of home when God was with us?
4. Have we been the happiest when other people were doing things for us, or when we were doing things for others?
5. Have we been happy when some difficulty has been overcome?
6. Does work ever help us to have a good time?

Scripture (select one or more): John 15: 1-12; Phil: 4: 8-9; Matt: 5: 2-12; 1 John 4: 7-11.

Verse to memorize: John 15: 12

Prayer (Form a prayer circle by all joining hands. There may be sentence prayers, or one prayer for example.)

Our Father, we thank Thee for each dear member of our family and the happy times we have together. We thank Thee for all the ways in which we can help each other and for the happiness this brings to us. When we forget to be kind and helpful, when we are selfish or angry, we pray that we will make us truly seek forgiveness from Thee and from one another. You pray for those who do not have a loving family about them and are lonely. May we find ways of showing Thy love to them. We thank Thee for Jesus who shares our joys and helps us in all our troubles. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Little Stories to Talk About
1. Jack said, “We never have any fun at our house, so I go to the movies whenever I have the money. The rest of the time I’m stuck with the gang.” His friend said, “Have you ever tried to plan a play night at home for your whole family?” Jack answered, “No, we don’t like the same genre. We’re agree on anything to do together.” (What was the trouble in Jack’s home?)

2. Ruth had a great many nice toys and she was quite proud of them. She was so afraid that other children would spoil them that she would let them use only her old ones. They found it was not so pleasant to play with Ruth and she was unhappy. (Why, do you suppose?)

3. Irene never had time to study her Sabbath School lesson. There were dishes to do, homework, TV, friends, etc. (What could Irene do?)

Hymn: (to be sung or read) “Happy the Home when God Is There.”

(Written by Mrs. W. B. Lewis, a member of the Battle Creek Church and chairman of the Goals Committee of the Women’s Board.)

Sabbath Rally Day

May 17 has been designated as Sabbath Rally Day throughout the denomination. Helpful kits of material were sent out to all pastors and superintendents and to most church clerks on April 18. More free material will flow. It is hoped that most people will have the Special Issue of the Sabbath Recorder by that time and can feature a well-organized distribution effort as part of the program of Sabbath Rally Day.
The Sabbath Eve  
By John A. Conrod  
The sun was hesitating on the western horizon as if it were debating whether or not to go down. The shadows were growing longer; the sky was darkening. It should have seemed like just another sun-set, but it wasn’t; it was Sabbath eve.

That morning the Seventy-Day Baptist Church the bells began to ring out loud and clear as if to voice the people’s prayer, “Dear Lord, withhold not the Sabbath from us. We crave you to look upon our wandering, sinning and travelling, waiting for this blessed time of rest and goodness.”

When the sun had just settled down below the horizon there came a sound from heaven as a rustling breeze that seemed to surround me and tell me that God was manifesting His presence to me.

Now it truly was the Sabbath; I could sense the sanctity and blessedness of the day. It was a time of peace worth all the labors of the week.

When I was a Sunday-keeper, I had a feeling of emptiness when I got up Sunday morning and said it was now the “Lord’s Day.” Even on those occasions when I stayed up to midnight the night before, there was no difference between those early hours and the hours after. To me it was just an arbitrary, man-made division of time.

In the beginning God said that the evening would come before the morning. He said, “From even unto even shall ye call the day.” And when that time came the Word of God rose in the minds of men. The sun set and the people went about their work or play.

Christian Education — Sec. Rex E. Zwiebel  
The Christian Answer to Juvenile Delinquency  
(A Youth Sabbath talk by a 16-year-old boy, Linn Randolph, of Denver, Colo.)

Every day you read or hear about young people who get themselves involved in crime. These people are only a small minority — about 5%, yet they represent a great social and moral problem, for many people are involved every time a crime is committed. Crime has a demoralizing effect upon the one who commits it and upon society in general. For as the crime rate increases, more and more young people are apt to weaken and fall into the pit of crime.

Whether or not many fall into this pit, and how and when they are in the pit climb out, depends mainly upon what society does about crime. Society has the responsibility of taking steps to help prevent the criminal from developing in the first place and also to rehabilitate those who are criminals.

This is exactly what society strives to do to maintain its orderly and refined civilization. This is done through the steps to preserve its civilization. We have made great strides in this. In the past tw0 centuries or so reforms in prisons and institutions and more just penal codes have done much. Yet in some ways we apparently have fallen short. There is a record high number of criminals today and they often commit more vicious crimes than were committed even just a generation ago.

In order to get at the root of crime, the makeup of the criminal must be studied and the unhealthy environmental conditions changed. As most criminals got started in crime as juvenile delinquents, let us look at that situation. The typical delinquent craves material things and doesn’t care how he gains it. Delinquents have a contempt for law and authority, frequent questionable places, and may smoke or drink to give the impression that they are “tough.” These individuals have inferiority complexes. They follow the gang and have great admiration for the gang leader. They use the mask of being tough to hide their tender and disturbed emotions.

Such undesirable traits of personality are the products of a bad environment. Juvenile delinquents often come from slum areas, broken homes, or homes with some sort of trouble. Some commit foul deeds during feelings of rebellion against a society that they feel is hostile. In his quest to learn about our complex society he may be misled and can become a potential transgressor of the law.

Such tensions prey constantly upon the mind of the juvenile delinquent. Today we realize this fact and are delving into the proverbial “mysteries of the mind” in a concerted effort to get at the cause of crime and other diseases of the mind. Many possible causes have been brought out and a comprehensive number of remedies suggested. These are being ever increasingly used against the problem of juvenile delinquency.

Yet many practices together must be hurled at the challenge if it is to be fully met. Among these is religion. Some people try to deal with juvenile delinquency as being strictly a social problem, forgetting that it is a great moral problem as well. They tend to forget the influence that religion has in the solution of the problem. True, juvenile delinquency is a social problem concerned with masses of people who under adverse circumstances would likely do wrong if left alone, by far, a social problem. It is an enormous moral problem with which churches everywhere are concerned.

These churches, even now, are carrying the burden of rehabilitation of thousands of those who have not come to know Christ. They are also extending and enlarging upon the youth work which remains to be done if the church is to further its mission in this younger world.

Young people who do not know Christ need to be won over at a gradual but steady pace. To be persuaded that Christianity is right is not enough; the young person must have it proved in action. He observes the actions of Christians with whom he comes in contact. For this purpose, activities outside the church in which young people generally spend their time are important in such a young person. He sees the actions of youths working for Christ in wholesome surroundings in which young people are found. He learns that Christians have good times too. We all help to set an example and to aid in the formation of opinions.

Christ said, “Suffer the little children to come unto me” (Matt. 19:13). By bringing in the children and in strengthening the youth, we can all help to cut down on juvenile delinquency. These young people are leaders of strong Christians, and when they reach adulthood they are ready to teach their children about Jesus.

Such is the Christian answer to juvenile delinquency.

In closing, I would like to leave you with these thoughts expressed in a poem by Florence Lady Fitzpatrick as reprinted in the Southeastern Assistant Highlighter:

Back to the Fold

"Twas a sheep, not a lamb, that strayed away,
In the parable Jesus told;
A good Shepherd brought it back again from the fold.

Out on the hillside, out in the cold,
"Twas the Shepherd brought.
And why for the sheep should we earnestly long,
As earnestly hope and pray?
Because there is danger if they go wrong
They will lead the lambs astray.

For the lambs will follow the sheep you know,
When you have set an example.
When the sheep go wrong it will not be long
Till the lambs are as wrong as they.

And so with the young people, we must plead
For the sake of the lambs today,
If the lambs are lost what a terrible cost
Some sheep will have to pay.

"I would like to subscribe to the Sabbath Recorder. Enclosed is a check for $5 for that purpose. Thanks for the tract that you sent. They are quite informative because I have never made contact or received any literature from Seventh Day Baptists."

THE SABBATH RECORDER

For Mother's Day
By James L. Skaggs

Dear Mother, with the passing years,
In clearer light I've come to see,
In deeper love and reverence hold,
What thy dear life has meant to me.

Before my eyes first saw the light,
In fellowship with heaven above,
Thou didst thy very soul impart
And build in me thy love.

In tender childhood's helplessness,
In love and prayer by day and night,
Thou didst divine my every need
And start my feet in paths of right.

When headstrong youth would have its way,
And passions sought to rule my life,
Thy patient love became my stay
And helped me through those years of strife.

In older days of heavy loads
Thou hast been quick to understand;
Thy sympathy along the road
Has given strength unto my hand.

But, Mother, words are poor indeed!
Mere symbols of our inward thought:
They cannot tell—our hearts must feel
And know what mother-love hath wrought.

With thankful heart, on Mother's Day,
I'd take in mine thy faithful hand,
And with love's garlands crown thy head
And make thee know I understand.

The Voice of Tangier

A missionary voice behind the curtain

The Voice of Tangier, a missionary broadcasting station located in Morocco, is the broadcasting outlet for Protestant Christianity in Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, and the countries behind the Iron Curtain. The Voice of America also has its large transmitters in Tangier, because of the strategic location. The Rev. Paul E. Freed, of Greensboro, North Carolina, is the president of the Voice of Tangier and International Evangelism, Inc. With its three powerful transmitters the Voice of Tangier is staffed by American missionaries, technicians, and European national workers. At present the broad-casting program includes 760 programs a month in 27 languages beamed directly to 14 Iron Curtain countries and the free nations of Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East. Although these programs are being beamed from Tangier to the countries of Europe, including Russia, the Voice of Tangier has been heard in 25 of the 48 states of the United States.

In keeping with the Voice of Tangier's declared missionary approach, Mr. Freed has urged penetration of the Iron Curtain with the Christian message of redemption in Christ. Recently he returned from a visit to the Soviet Union where he preached in the Soviet Church in Moscow. It is significant to note that while Communist countries have successfully jammed broadcasts of the Voice of America, the British Broadcasting Company, etc., the Voice of Tangier has continued uninterrupted.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

WATERFORD, CONN. - A recent church bulletin received at the Recorder office has an interesting back page with a simple outline picture of the house of worship, and a brief historical material under it.

Organized in 1784, serving this community for more than one hundred seventy years.

One of the oldest churches of the New London-Waterford area, yet having a forward-looking program. Loving God and our fellow men, we seek to lead all to know our Lord Jesus Christ as Savior.

We welcome you to attend our services: Sabbath morning at 10:45, Sabbath School at 11:45, Friday eve prayer meeting at 7:30, monthly hymn sing, first Sunday, 7:30.

ALFRED STATION, N. Y. - Just 101 years ago this month the members of the Second Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church built and dedicated the building which is still used today. The church was started by a group of forward-thinking people who had the desire to build a church that would be above reproach, and that would stand the test of time.

The pastor began a discussion of the book on "A Program for Extension and Growth," and gave a report of his service with us. A church budget which showed an increase over last year was adopted.

On April 19, we met to continue the study of the Program for Extension and Growth of Seventh Day Baptists, after a covered-dish luncheon.

On Sabbath, April 26, we heard Rev. George W. Lewis of the Temperance League of New Jersey.

Our pastor, Rev. C. Harmon Dickinson, is conducting a class in Baptism on Sabbath afternoons.

May 5, 1958

Excellent time to survey the events which have taken place in this church building during the first century of its existence. This was a fitting celebration in this grand old church home of ours and invite all who have ever enjoyed its spiritual uplift and Christian fellowship more for special services, May 30 and 31, 1958. We plan to have a service Sabbath eve, the regular 11:00 a.m. worship on Sabbath, and a special Sabbath afternoon service.

We hope that every member and friend, past or present, will find it possible to attend one or more of these Centennial Celebration services.

We expect to devote a great deal of our meeting time to the history of our church and the people we are. There will be plenty of time for just plain conversation to renew old friendships and to enjoy good Alfred Station cooking as well — from a letter sent out by Fred M. Palmer for the Centennial Committee.

PLAINFIELD, N. J. — Once again we send our greetings to the other churches of the denomination.

We held our annual church meeting, Sunday April 6, and although a rainy day, had a good attendance. We elected Courtland V. Davis, clerk and trustee; L. Harri­son North, treasurer; C. Harold Thomp­son, assistant treasurer; and William W. Armstrong, moderator, for the year. New service committees were elected in Wor­ship, Evangelism, Discipleship, and Fel­lowship.

After a delicious covered-dish supper and a report of present and future plans were made. The pastor began a discussion of the book on "A Program for Extension and Growth," and gave a report of his service with us. A church budget which showed an increase over last year was adopted.

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Correspondent.
### Statement of Denominational Treasurer, March 31, 1958

#### OUR WORLD MISSION

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#### Non-Budget Gifts

- **March Receipts**: $333.40
- **March Disbursements**: Missionary Society $333.40

#### SUMMARY

- **Current annual budget**: $900,000.00
- **Treas’ budget receipts 6 months**: $42,868.89
- **Boards’ budget receipts 6 months**: $2,216.59
- **Remainder required by Conf. time**: $41,914.52
- **Percentage of budget year elapsed**: 50.00%
- **Percentage of budget raised**: 90.06%
- **Percentage of time before Conference**: 58.33%

Olin C. Davis, Treasurer.

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### SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE

at California Baptist Theological Seminary
Covina, California, August 11 - 16, 1958