What the Sabbath Means to Me

By Ahva J. C. Bond (1941, in The Beacon)

HOME

Home has always meant more to me than just a place to eat and sleep. Week-days at home have given me more than these material necessities. But the Sabbath has brought to me from my first recollection and through the years sweeter experiences in the home, and greater family joys than any other day could bring. The Sabbath also has enriched the character and refined the tone of the other days of the week.

The Sabbath to me means happier home life.

GOD

I have seen God in majestic mountains, on the trackless sea, and in the starry heavens. I have heard Him in the hymns of the church, and in the voice of the meadow lark. I have seen Him in the wild doe with her fawn at her side, in the lives of people, and, more clearly, in the loving heart of a true companion. But definitely and distinctly throughout the years, the Sabbath has symbolized to me the presence of God in time and in our human life. Time is a measured portion of eternity. The Sabbath, therefore, is a concentrate of immortality, and a revelation of God’s mercy and of His kindly thought for His children, living in time and made for eternity.

The Sabbath to me means God.

HOLY TIME

Above are mere inklings of what the Sabbath means to me. Infinitely more than I have been able to express the Sabbath means to me, because it is holy time. It is so declared in the Holy Book by holy prophets and apostles. It is so recognized in the practice of Jesus, the Son of God, of saints in the Christian Church down through the centuries, and of many of my own ancestors for generations. It has been held sacred by those with whom I have been most closely associated, and by all whom I have loved most dearly.

The Sabbath to me is Holy Time.

WORSHIPING GOD AT MOUNTAIN CAMP

Coming forth from the spacious new lodge at Pacific Pines Camp into the mottled shadow of giant pines, one can see part of a large congregation of campers and church people who joined in a Sabbath afternoon worship service on August 9. Such surroundings are ideal for thoughtful consideration of our evangelistic mission in the world below.
CLOUDY SKIES

Flying from East to West has been the experience of many of our readers this summer. To catch what others saw and enjoyed on such a trip would probably be as difficult as to try to describe the weather and the landscape of a continent along many lines of latitude and longitude with all the added variations of elevation from ground level to 18,000 feet. The possibilities of rough or smooth air and the mood of the passengers also affect the description. The best one can do is to give a few impressions with the hope that they will match some of the experiences that others had or would like to have by way of imagination.

Pilots guiding theirladen crafts or flying singly through the limitless halls of the marbles palaces of the sky have often thought of God who hand the marvels wrought. Familiar to us is the expression, "God is my co-pilot." Many fliers, confident of their own training and of the flawlessness of the planes they fly, are still conscious of their dependence on a higher hand to guide them. Happy the person who boards "Flight 519" with the feeling that God is with him.

Ours was a daylight flight with several stops which afforded an opportunity to re-enter at frequent intervals the world of pedestrians and to shift from propellers to self-propelled locomotion. In a sense it is to change from faith to action, from being sustained by forces which we scarcely understand to the heavy plodding on terra firma which is our normal level of experience.

Most of us, perhaps, have been on numerous flights of longer or shorter duration on much the same theory of flight, and with a little practice we, too, can take off and fly. We prefer to think of these as a change of location rather than a change of altitude.

The clouds are all behind us as we wing our California destination with all the added variants of elevation, from the turbulent area. He swings a little slender, motionless wings up ahead, although the pilot reminds us that at the higher elevation the outside temperature is 30 degrees.

Never have we seen clouds with such individuality as to view them from below, from above, and when take-off and landing, we see the leading edges of our wings knife through their ghostlike masses. They have their own stories of all kinds of weather, like snowflakes in three dimensions and with frayed borders. What force binds these legless bundles of fleece that dot the landscape? It seems to be a self-propelled locomotion of well-spaced flocks that may appear to be grazing on tiny garden spots of green below? Those in the distance appear to be inert and lazy, while those near at hand hasten by as if called by an unseen shepherd to greener pastures. We like to think that somehow the hand of God molds, fashion, and controls these lifeless masses of animated lamb's wool casting grey shadows on the fields below. Science would have a different explanation.

This we know: on either side of the long corridor of our throbbing, sunlit space-ship whose windows give us this cloud view, there is life and perception of God on the part of those who wait for them at Denver. Conscious even of their mother quickly span half a continent to meet the father who waits for them at Denver. Conscious on the other hand of the planes they fly, are looking forward to seeing the father, they are quite unconscious of height or possible danger. On the other hand, the lady across the aisle never unfastens her safety belt. Tiny tots all dressed in white (not the clouds outside) are the precious little lambs whose pictures we try to take as they toddle happily and unrestrained from one end to the other of the Mainliner. We could hardly call our window view as"Cloudy Skies".

We would pass over the continental divide where clouds vie with mountain peaks in splendor, the captain tells us of weather conditions ahead. His radar reads the raindrops in clouds along the route. It will be smoother and pleasanter to heed the warnings and skirt the edges of the turbulent area. He swings a little slender, motionless wings up ahead, although the pilot reminds us that at the higher elevation the outside temperature is 30 degrees.

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The clouds are all behind us as we wing over the wonders of Bryce and Zion National Parks and look down upon the great deserted-feeding reservoir known as Lake Meade. Lenghening shadows beautify a changing landscape. We had found the clouds wonderful during the day because our experience took us above them. We are almost loathe to leave such a realm but we travel with a goal. We circle a great city and swing to the precision landing for which we had planned. And, according to our expectation, the loved ones are waiting at the gate. Applications to the well-piloted journey of life are apparent. We embark in faith; we disembark with joy.

We might add that a stewardress and a few other passengers have asked for the story of our cloudy skies when it appears in the Sabbath Recorder.
Delivered at the opening of Conference at Covina, California, August 11, 1958.

I come to this 146th annual session of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference in the firm belief that there is a valid reason for a continued existence of Seventh Day Baptists. I believe that the same truths which first brought Seventh Day Baptist churches into existence are truths for this day also.

Among these, I would like to make brief mention of salvation by the grace of God through faith in Jesus Christ. This is offered to everyone. This truth is held likewise by many people. It is a valid reason for a continued existence as churches and a denomination.

Likewise, as a denomination we may seek to go forward for Christ and His Kingdom. This will require consecration, vision, and stewardship. Consecration must come first: to be loyal to the truths of God; to know the program of the church and the denomination; to give ourselves to the call to service; and to support our young people that they may become intelligent and to heed the call to a fuller service.

The vision is a concept of service to share the truths that justify our separate existence as churches and a denomination. This is first necessary in our local communities — but we cannot stop there. There must be a vision of helping to establish fellowships and churches in other areas in our land and to so strengthen our home interest that we may be able to extend the ministry of God through Seventh Day Baptists throughout the world as opportunity is before us.

To our boards and agencies we have entrusted various phases of our work. Let us share the vision that they have for us. Let us support them in our prayers that these visions may increase, and let us undergird them with our resources that they may become realities.

There is an opportunity for you to share in these visions as you study the board reports, as you listen to their programs, and at our business meetings this week. Thus you, too, may have a greater part in the fulfilling of the work that is before us.

Our boards and agencies are going forward for Christ needs first of all a full commitment of our time, our talent, and our resources for the work of His Kingdom.

At the close of Conference last year, we were challenged with the thought of having Our World Mission Budget raised from the close of this Conference. Is it still possible? That is largely up to you.

This message I bring you, confident that there is a mission for us and that we may answer the call to labor in the vineyard today.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

AUGUST 25, 1958
THE SABBATH RECORDER

CALIFORNIA CHURCHES PREPARE FOR CONFERENCE

The Riverside and Los Angeles Seventh Day Baptist Churches visited the two weeks before General Conference, were found to be working hard on the details of the entertainment of delegates and preparation of all the physical aspects of a smooth-running Conference on grounds midway between the two cities.

It is customary for the Committee on Courtesy and Resolutions to mention in all-inclusive and specific ways the individuals and organizations contributing equipment and large portions of time and effort to such tasks. Suffice it to say here that the two churches were very well organized to carry forward the preparations for inspirational services and the many facets of the Conference.

Due to previous commitments of the California Baptist buildings and grounds it was not possible for equipment to be moved in before General Conference, were found to be working hard on the details of the entertainment of delegates and preparation of all the physical aspects of a smooth-running Conference on grounds midway between the two cities.

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The people in that church are going forward with a program of street meetings and tract distribution that is bringing results. Instead of concentrating upon the well-to-do and those who "need no salvation," they are trying to reach the down-and-outers with the Gospel of redemption. (While there, I was privileged to see what is one of the longest bridges in the world — across Lake Pontchartrain — and also to see the two great new bridges across the Mississippi River.)

If the veil of the world's machinery were lifted off, how much we would find is done in answer to the prayers of God's children. — R. M. McCheyne.

AUGUST 25, 1958

Showers and Flowers in the Southland

Paul S. Burdick

Delegate to the Southwestern Association, from the Central New York, Western, and Eastern Associations.

Anyone who has not visited extensively in the southern states in the last few years, and does so now, may be amazed, as I was, at the spirit of progress and the forging ahead which is apparent on every hand. And quite as remarkable, to the unbiased observer, must be the deep religious motivation which the shifting of population and the change in the face of the cities from rural to urban have not been able to erase.

Seventh Day Baptists have a stake in this, since we have through many years maintained rather close ties with several of our churches in Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas. These churches are showing such remarkable vitality and initiative that one is compelled to the opinion that this is a field which offers great promise and merits our deepest prayers.

It was the privilege of the writer to visit ten of our churches, fellowships, and family groups in his recent visit to the Southwestern Association at Edinburg, Texas. Here are some of the highlights that remain in my memory as a result of that trip.

Little Rock, Arkansas, has a great new medical center, which is being copied in other states, and a part of the responsibility for its operation rests with a Seventh Day Baptist pastor. His home on Friday night about twenty people met him to give welcome audience to the delegate from the North. Fouke and Texarkana are making great strides under the leadership of the shepherding pastor and his talented family.

The Church faces difficulties, partly because there are few members who are wage-earners. But the number of active young people, and the excellent entertainment given us by the women of the church, show great possibilities there. I believe they will overcome their difficulties.

Metairie is a suburb of New Orleans. The people in that church are going forward with a program of street meetings and tract distribution that is bringing results. Instead of concentrating upon the well-to-do and those who "need no salvation," they are trying to reach the down-and-outers with the Gospel of redemption. (While there, I was privileged to see what is one of the longest bridges in the world — across Lake Pontchartrain — and also to see the two great new bridges across the Mississippi River.)

San Antonio boasts of being the "strawberry center" of the country. It does appear to be a progressive town, and the Seventh Day Baptist Church there has a place of respect. The new group at Walker also shows signs of wanting to form a church. While in Hammond I was welcomed into the home of Brother Showers, who is a member of the Washington, D. C., People's Church. He is very much interested in forming a group of people there of his own race, and he has the cooperation of the pastor of the Seventh Day Baptist Church.

From Hammond it was a good day's ride to the vicinity of the Paint Rock, Alabama, Church. Vacation Bible School was going on, but I was welcomed along with others into the hospitable home of the Butlers, and an enjoyable meeting with 20 or more people who had been notified of my coming.

I must not forget to mention the home of the Stillman family in Metairie, where I was entertained both on the way to and from Edinburg. There is good prospect of a great new church in that great city.

The title of this article for the Recorder was suggested by the very frequent rains we had there in July, and the resulting beauty of foliage and flower gardens, with a welcome change in Texas after the dry spell of a few years ago.

Also it should suggest the fact that showers are falling upon the Southland, and the resulting flowering of hope and faith should make us greatly encouraged about the situation in the churches of the Southwest.

Subscribers and libraries who file or bind the Sabbath Recorder are again reminded that we did not publish issues on the 4th or 18th of August.
Pacific Pines Camp Made Ready for Pre-Conference Retreat

The expanded facilities of the best equipped church-owned camp of the denomination were made available to a large group of young people for a longer-than-usual retreat. Some of the equipment, such as tables and benches in the new lodge and dining room, were used for the first time as the camp was filled to near capacity by about 60 campers and 20 faculty members and counselors.

Wednesday afternoon was the earliest time that campers could register. Before suppertime nearly all the campers had arrived. They soon became acquainted with at least a portion of the camp, registering in the old lodge and finding their sleeping quarters either in the girls’ old open-air barracks or the boys’ new building. Westerners whose hearts had previously been stirred by experiences in these surroundings comprised about one third the number of campers coming with high expectation.

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and grounds in anticipation of the blessings which might come to the young people before their camp experience would come to an end. Reports from camp and observations of some of those same adults who visited camp on Sabbath afternoon justified all the labor that had been expended. Some of the tradition of Pacific Pines Camp, in some rather inexplicable way, seemed to grip the hearts of those who had never been there before. Perhaps it was the music direction; possibly the counselors, faculty, and director; more likely the infiltration of the Holy Spirit which had recently gripped a considerable number of campers. Whatever brought it about, it was there. There is perhaps no soil that is dirtier than the dust in the cleared areas of Pacific Pines but for a great number of young Seventh Day Baptists that ground became holy ground.

Terry Hurley of Salem, W. Va., and Carol Van Horn of North Loop, Neb., found almost every need anticipated. The head cook, Wallace Wheelock, had come up the mountain the day before and had begun cooking in the spacious ultra-modern kitchen about 5 a.m. Weeks previously he had hewed out from the mountainside with pick, shovel, and wheelbarrow a driveway the length of the lodge and kitchen so that he could park his sleeping quarters by the back door.

Adults who had long appreciated the significance of this particular camp had been happy to spend long hours in preparing the physical facilities of buildings.

New and old lodges

Terry Hurley of Salem, W. Va., and Carol Van Horn of North Loop, Neb.

New boys’ barracks in the shadows

Duane Davis, director, and Wallace Wheelock, cook, look things over.

MISSIONS — Sec. Everett T. Harris

Nurses’ Sailing Plans

Word has been received from the Farrell Steamship Line that it has been necessary to make a change in the sailing reservations of Misses Joan Clement and Beth Sever. Instead of sailing from New York to Beira, Portuguese East Africa, on the S. S. African Moon, it is now expected that they will sail on the S. S. African Planet. They are sister ships and the accommodations are exactly similar.

This ship is scheduled to sail from Pier #33, Brooklyn, N. Y., on Wednesday, September 10. The hour of sailing depends upon the tide, clearance from the harbor master, and other factors which make it difficult to determine in advance the exact time.

It is expected that the nurses will be flying eastward from Los Angeles by American Airlines on Tuesday, September 9, on Flight #624, which arrives at New York (International Airport) at 1:35 P.M.

Articles to Come

Next week there will be more articles about General Conference, its leaders, its actions, and its future plans. The next issue will give an opportunity to meet the new president and to tell the emphasis of his theme for the 1959 Conference, to be held at Salem, W. Va.

Messages and tape-recorded discussions will show the things toward which the churches will be working when the new Conference year begins the first of October. A liberal use of pictures will be noted also in the next issue.

In the meantime it should be noted that there are several weeks left in the current year. Conference offerings in the churches and at Covina were generous, but there remains to be raised (according to latest figures) about 11 per cent of Our World Mission for the 1957-58 Conference year. Work is proceeding on faith — faith that our people will contribute the necessary funds to carry forward the work which we have voted to do in the areas in which we have the greatest opportunities and where the calls are insistent.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

AUGUST 25, 1958
Important Resolutions Passed by General Conference

The following far-reaching resolutions, in addition to well-worded courtesy statements were passed, after long disussing argument or vote on the last business day of Conference. Remarks and ample debate went with disseminating the broader resolutions outside the denomination and the others to the churches in the quickest and most effective ways.

Sunday Legislation

Because we hold the Sabbath was given by God for the blessing of all men, including Christians, we believe that the seventh day should be faithfully kept as a holy day; and we call upon fellow Christians everywhere to study seriously the Biblical teaching concerning the Sabbath and give prayerful consideration to a spiritual observance of the seventh-day Sabbath.

WHEREAS, we agree with the desirability of proper Sabbath observance including cessation of labor, we feel keenly that such observance is of value only when voluntary, and therefore we are categorically opposed to its regulation or enforcement by law. Since we as a people observe the Biblical Sabbath, namely, the seventh day of the week, commonly called Saturday, and since most other denominations observe another day, we would further oppose any legislation which specifies a particular day for rest and worship as detrimental to its use, and be it further

Resolved that we support efforts to restrict the advertising of alcoholic beverages, including beer and wine, particularly on TV and radio.

World Peace

Resolved that we express our concern for peace in International affairs and call upon our people to strengthen their efforts to prevent war and to persist in prayers for peace. We commend to all international leaders to continue their efforts toward mutual disarmament among nations, to open the channels of peaceful negotiations, and to promote better understanding and unity between all peoples through faith in God. We call upon all Christians to strengthen their faith in Christ who is our peace, in order that our daily living shall continue to the furthering of the Gospel of Peace.

C. Harmon Dickinson, Chairman,
Mrs. Betty Rood, Secretary.

Two-Thirds of Ministers in Debt

The fact that two-thirds of Protestant ministers are in debt and many of their wives must take jobs to help support their families has at last been set down in black and white. These and other startling findings appear in a study to be published in the fall, based on a questionnaire sent to clergyment of nine major Protestant denominations.

The Sabbath Recorder

CONFERENCE COMMISSION SPENDS BUSY WEEK

From August 4 to 8, the Commission of the Seventh Baptist General Conference met under the chairmanship of Charles Harris in the Parish House at 4415 Lemon Street, Riverside, California.

Resolved that we support efforts to prevent war and to persist in prayers for peace.

Resolved that we express our concern for peace in International affairs and call upon our people to strengthen their efforts to prevent war and to persist in prayers for peace.

Resolved that we support efforts to restrict the advertising of alcoholic beverages, including beer and wine, particularly on TV and radio.

Race Equality

RESOLVED that we reaffirm our position of previous years regarding race equality and believe this equality should extend to schools, housing, the ballot, and business and employment opportunities; and should be promoted by peaceful means, in the spirit of love and patience.

Separation of Church and State

RESOLVED that we oppose the use of public funds either directly or indirectly in the promotion or maintenance of private or parochial schools as being wrong in principle.

Beverage Alcohol

WHEREAS, we hold the body to be the temple of God and the use of alcoholic beverages to be harmful to the body, destructive to moral and spiritual senses, and WHEREAS, the consumption of alcoholic beverages has an increasingly serious problem in contributing to accidents on the highways, danger in the airways, the production of alcoholics, the increase in the number of persons institutionalized, therefore be it

Resolved that we continue to advocate the non-use of alcohol as a beverage and that we increase temperance education as to the harmful effects of its use, and be it further

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The Sabbath Recorder
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION — Sec. Rex E. Zwiebel

What Pre-Con Means to the Young People and to the Denomination
By B. Pearl Hibbard

No one can express the whole significance of Pre-Con to the young people. Each person feels a little differently about this experience and to the Master and living in Him. But it has a deeper and richer meaning for us as well — it means a closer, deeper fellowship between God and us and among fellow campers.

The thrill of learning His teachings, of seeing Him in the nature around us, of walking with Him, makes Christ of greater significance to all of us. We learn in our classes greater means of serving our Master and living a life of stewardship for Him. Christ is the true answer to our problems.

Doing dishes or cleaning the grounds are no longer harder chores but instead become a joyous task when we have the fellowship of the campers. Singing together, playing together, and working together help us to understand even better the meaning of Christian fellowship. This fellowship builds a stronger union among the campers — a union that really ties us together from Texas to Rhody. The denomination needs stronger leaders, more trained laymen, and Christian followers. Never is there a greater opportunity to learn this than at Pre-Con Retreat. Each camper may have a responsibility of leading and the responsibility of following. Our classes offer us the knowledge of Christ's teachings, of stewardship for His service, and of love's power. In our retreat there are many potential leaders. These young people must be given the opportunity to exercise their new attainments in their homes, churches, and communities. The denomination's future ministers, Christian workers, and builders of Christian homes come from the training at Pre-Con.

To the young people Pre-Con means a chance to unite together as Christians, and to the denomination the camp means stronger leaders for our Master's service. Pre-Con — an inspiration, a blessed fellowship, and a great training.

General Impressions of Pre-Con
By Barbara Cruzan

This year's Pre-Con Retreat was one which none of us will forget for a long time to come. We will always cherish the happy memories of this "mountaintop experience" at Pre-Con. The afternoon witnessed the arrival of nearly sixty Seventh Day Baptist young people from sixteen different church classes. By campfire time that night nearly everyone knew everyone else. It was not at all unusual to have a person from Arkansas on one side of you and a person from Wisconsin on the other. The whole camp front from beginning to end was one of friendliness and Christian love.

The spiritual side of our lives was strengthened in our "Alone with God" periods, our vespers, and our classes. Our vespers, and our day's work, and our workshops, and to the denomination the camp means stronger leaders for our Master's service.

New lodge-dining room and kitchen

Hicks of the American Institute of Family Relations. These helped us to realize that building a Christian family is a very important job for us to think seriously about in the near future.

The music, under the direction of Lois Wells, was also a very real and necessary part of camp. We learned that all of us can sing and that this is one of the best ways to witness for our Savior.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

DEAN A. J. C. BOND
By Dr. J. Nelson Norwood

Ahva John Clarence Bond was born May 25, 1875, at Roanoke, W. Va., a son of John and Elizabeth Schiefer Bond, and died July 26, 1958, at Bethesda Hospital, North Hornell, N. Y., after a long illness.

He matriculated at Salem College, Salem, W. Va., and was graduated in 1903, with a Bachelor of Arts degree. At that time he married Ora E. Van Horn who blest him with six fine children, each one of whom was his pride and joy. They in turn won for him six stalwart sons-in-law, and in time a numerous progeny of grandchildren. Their united love brightened Dr. Bond's whole life.

When his wife Ora died in 1938, he in time married Agnes Kenyon Clarke of Alfred, N. Y., who so tenderly and loyally cared for him in his latest years and who survives him. Her two sons added to the happy circle.

Meantime Salem College had honored its alumni with a Master of Arts degree (1912), and a Doctor of Divinity degree (1920).

By that time or soon after, Dr. Bond held various pastorates, e.g. Milton Junction, W. Va., Salem, W. Va., and Plainfield, N. J. He had also filled important positions in the general work of his denomination, such as leader in Sabbath Promotion, chairman of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, and the World Council of Churches. He had also filled important positions in the general work of his denomination, such as leader in Sabbath Promotion, chairman of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, and the World Council of Churches; in both cases he was leader and secretary to various conferences and also produced notable articles on various matters of church concern and had written and published books, among which were "Sermons to Boys and Girls," "When I Was a Boy," and "Poems." He was co-editor and secretary to the Seventh Day Baptist Conference-appointed committee which produced the latest "Statement of Seventh Day Baptist Beliefs" (1941).

But this departed leader was not satisfied to confine his activities to his own denomination. He was active in the National Conference of Jews and Christians; in the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, and the World Council of Churches. Dr. Bond was a member of the Continuation Committee of the World Conference on Faith and Order; and a

August 25, 1958
delegate at Lausanne, Switzerland (1927), where he represented the regular denominations and the Seventh Day Baptists. He also attended the significant meeting at Utrecht in 1938.

From his pastorate in Plainfield, N. J., he moved to the deanship of the Alfred University Seminary of Theology in 1935. This work — the training of Christian ministers — was his outstanding contribution to the denomination he loved. There he wrought successfully full time for seventeen fruitful years, to which were added a year or two on part time. Alfred University recognized his years of service with the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters (Litt. D.) at the annual commencement of his last year of teaching.

Farewell services for Dr. Bond were held in the First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Alfred, July 29, 1958, participated in by Rev. Melvin G. Nida, Rev. Albert N. Rogers, and his pastor, Rev. Harley S. Warren. Interment was in Alfred Rural Cemetery. — Alfred Sun.

WOMEN’S WORK — Arbeith Deland

SEPTEMBER DEVOTIONAL SERVICE

By Nettie Fowler

Theme: Pray Ye! What Do We Desire?

Scripture: Mark 11: 22-26

Hymn: “Tis the Blessed Hour of Prayer”

Meditation

As this is written, Conference is still a month and more away. Yet with confidence we “look back” to the inspiration we will have received, directly from participation in its activities, or from the reports of those who were there. As this is read, Conference is over. Commission, committees, messages, voting — the work is done. For this year we are considering the implications of “Pray! Go! Go!” From many angles we have surveyed the relation of this theme to these responsibilities. At Covina we believe Spirit-led decisions have been made. Now what does all this mean to us?

We do not need to be told that these are difficult times. We seem to move from crisis to crisis. The weight of responsibility is not only commended by the Heavens but is well-nigh intolerable. As active citizens we share the load. We can be so immersed in the distressed and confusion of the times that we lose our perspective as children of God. An African explorer told the story of his baggage bearers who frequently stopped in the forest path, explaining that they were “waiting to let their souls catch up with their bodies.” If men on forest paths need such a pause, how far away from the Spirit may our bodies get in this jet-propulsion age! Isaiah says, “Blessed are all they that wait for the Lord.”

This brings us to the special theme of this meditation. Inspired by the association of friends, Conference activities and decisions, with renewed personal commitment to the cause of Christ and our response of what that means to the world and the Kingdom, just what do we specifically desire and intend to pray for? This is a vital question because our Scripture reference tells us definitely: “What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.” This makes prayer a most precious possession, but much more than asking for benefits is involved and should be understood. When we pray the answer will come as promised. But the answer may not be in the form we hope for. We ask for endurance; we may be sent suffering, for that is the practice ground for Christlikeness; we may be sent the experience out of which this spirit-fruit grows. We pray for strength; Satan may tempt us to our resistances. It is then that we may hear the still voice, “My power is made perfect in weakness.” We seek for unselfishness and may be given the opportunity to minister to the needs of others until it hurts. We ask for a closer walk with Christ and God may let friends turn away from us, even against us, until we realize that “His grace is sufficient.” And when we ask for more love, we may find ourselves among the most unbosomy, the crudest, even the evil, whose need for love is immeasurable. But the Kingdom, we are told, is like the merchant who found one pearl of such value that he sold all he had to buy it! The answer will come.

Just now we need to take stock of our emphasis on peace. How precious it is! And how tenous its hold! As the African proverb says: “For our own sake let us not catch up, for the Spirit to so grip us that even in evil days we may have the ‘peace that passeth understanding’.” Paul’s prayer for the Romans was that they “may be enriched by the knowledge of God for every good work.” If men are experiencing heavy trials was that “the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope and in the power of the Holy Spirit.”

“Our refuge and strength, therefore we will not fear, though the earth be removed.” The Bible tells us that God is “able to keep us from falling, and to present us faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy.” The Bible tells us that God is “able to meet every need.”

What do we desire? Perhaps, because the words of this prayer will express the deep desire of our hearts, we hopefully face the new Conference year:

O Thou by whom we come to God,
The Life, the Truth, the Way,
(Thy path, the prayer Jesus has trod)
O Lord, teach us to pray.


(Written by each of us as a member of the White Cloud, Mich., church. She has this year retired from public school teaching after 39½ years of service in Michigan schools in White Cloud, Muskegon Heights, and Fremont.)

Philippine President
Gives Promise to Mighty Voice
of Far East Broadcasting Company

There has been mention occasionally in these pages of the tremendous Gospel work being done at Manila by the Far East Broadcasting Company — an outgrowth of the need felt by Christian servicemen stationed in the Philippines during World War II. Op-erational in 1945, it has captured the interest of many substantial givers to make possible a “radio city” with 9 stations broadcasting 20 hours a day in 36 languages and dialects. The company is now constructing buildings on Okinawa to house a 100,000-watt transmitter to reach more effectively into China. Upon the occasion of celebrating its tenth anniversary, the following statement was made by Carlos P. Garcia, President of the Philippines:

It is with great pleasure that I greet the Far East Broadcasting Co., Inc. — its management, staff, and millions of listeners — on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of Radio Station DZAS.

I am most gratified to know that this radio station, aside from being an instrument in helping to spread the Gospel of Christ, is a station with a high mission. It has already reached masses to appreciate the higher things in life, is proving itself to be a force in strengthening friendship between peoples, and is an instrument in helping to foster understanding and cooperation among us. As this, I understand, is trying to accomplish through its missionary work of dedicating itself to the service of God and mankind. The DZAS, indeed, is a station with a high mission.

I wish this station greater successes.

Any church or fellowship having need of a communion set may obtain one for the shipping cost from Pastor Doyle K. Zwiebel, Box 139, Richburg, N. Y. There are three trays with cups, a cup filler, and one bread plate.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

AUGUST 25, 1958

15
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**SUMMARY**

- **Current Annual budget**: $90,000.00
- **Treas. budget receipts 10 mos.**: 67,850.91
- **Boards' budget receipts 10 mos.**: 3,255.97
- **Remainder required**: $18,893.12
- **Percentage of budget year elapsed**: 83.33%
- **Percentage of budget raised**: 79.9%
- **Verona, N. Y.**: Olin C. Davis.

**SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON**

for September 6, 1958

Justice in Daily Work

Lesson Scripture: Ex. 20: 9-10; Eccl. 9: 10; Eph. 4: 28; Col. 3: 22 through 4: 1.

**OBITUARY**

Bond, Ahva J. C., son of John and Elizabeth Schierer Bond, was born May 20, 1873 at Roanoke, W. Va., and died at Bethesda Hospital, North Hornell, N. Y., on July 26, 1958, after a long illness.

(See extended obituary on page 13.)

**SPACIOUS CONFERENCE GROUNDS**

The delightful campus of California Baptist Seminary with its ample facilities became a place of prayer, of inspiration, of deliberation and decision, of work and blessing for the hundreds of Seventh Day Baptists who assembled there from August 11-16 for the 146th session of Conference.